

Conventions Put Spotlight On Porter

By Norman Jameson
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Porter Routh runs his finger down a list of Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting locations like an electronic scanner reading computer tape.

His finger, programmed to stimulate recall of what Routh considered the most significant events at the annual meetings, stops at 1939, Oklahoma City, the beginning of his incredible string of attendance at 40 consecutive Southern Baptist Convention annual meetings. He covered that one as a newspaper reporter for the local Daily Oklahoman.

In the succeeding 39 years, Routh attended the meetings as a denominational employee. Houston marks his 28th and last as executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee.

Now Routh, who has been executive secretary-treasurer longer than both the previous office holders combined, stops at 1949, again Oklahoma City. R. G. Lee, SBC president, surrenders the gavel to oppose a motion that would prevent anyone related to a city, state or national council of churches from serving on any SBC board. The convention sustains him, defeating the motion.

"That was a very dramatic moment,"

Routh recalls, "because certainly Dr. Lee was known to be very conservative theologically, but he did not feel that Baptists should not have anything to do with any others. There were many areas where they could have common concern. This did not mean, of course, we were going into the National Council of Churches or anything like that, but it did mean a man could not be disenfranchised because of his relationship to a local pastors' conference."

—1954, St. Louis. The convention, at the urging of J. B. Weatherspoon, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, goes on record in support of the Supreme Court decision on school desegregation.

—1963, Kansas City. Messengers affirm seminaries and adopt the statement of Baptist Faith and Message.

—1964, Atlantic City. Southern and American Baptists meet at same time, then with National Baptists and others in Baptist Jubilee Advance, 150 years after the Triennial Convention in 1814.

—1968, Houston. Messengers adopt statement on the racial crisis in the nation. It leaves race relations to individual churches, but states the convention would not deny fellowship with churches because of race.

1939
1940
1941
1942
1943
1944
1945

—1976, Norfolk. Bold Mission Thrust is launched in what Routh calls the "high hour in the life of the convention."

Annual meetings are a significant part of the life of Southern Baptist Convention employees, especially for those on the staff of the Executive Committee which is charged with carrying out the mandate of the messengers between sessions. Routh expresses confidence in the annual sit-down business meeting. But he is concerned that as the volume of business increases and the number of messengers grows, time is not taken to get full information and a decision may be made without everyone getting a chance to be heard on an issue.

"One of the concerns I have is that you have fewer than a third, perhaps, of the SBC pastors at the convention," Routh says. "You have only an infinitesimal representation of lay persons. So whether or not the action of the convention really represents the total Baptist fellowship is always a real concern."

"I think most of the time it does, it's usually a fair sample. The majority vote in the convention doesn't necessarily mean that it's the will of God. It's the only way we have to make decisions, but we ought to always take time to listen to the voice of the minorities."

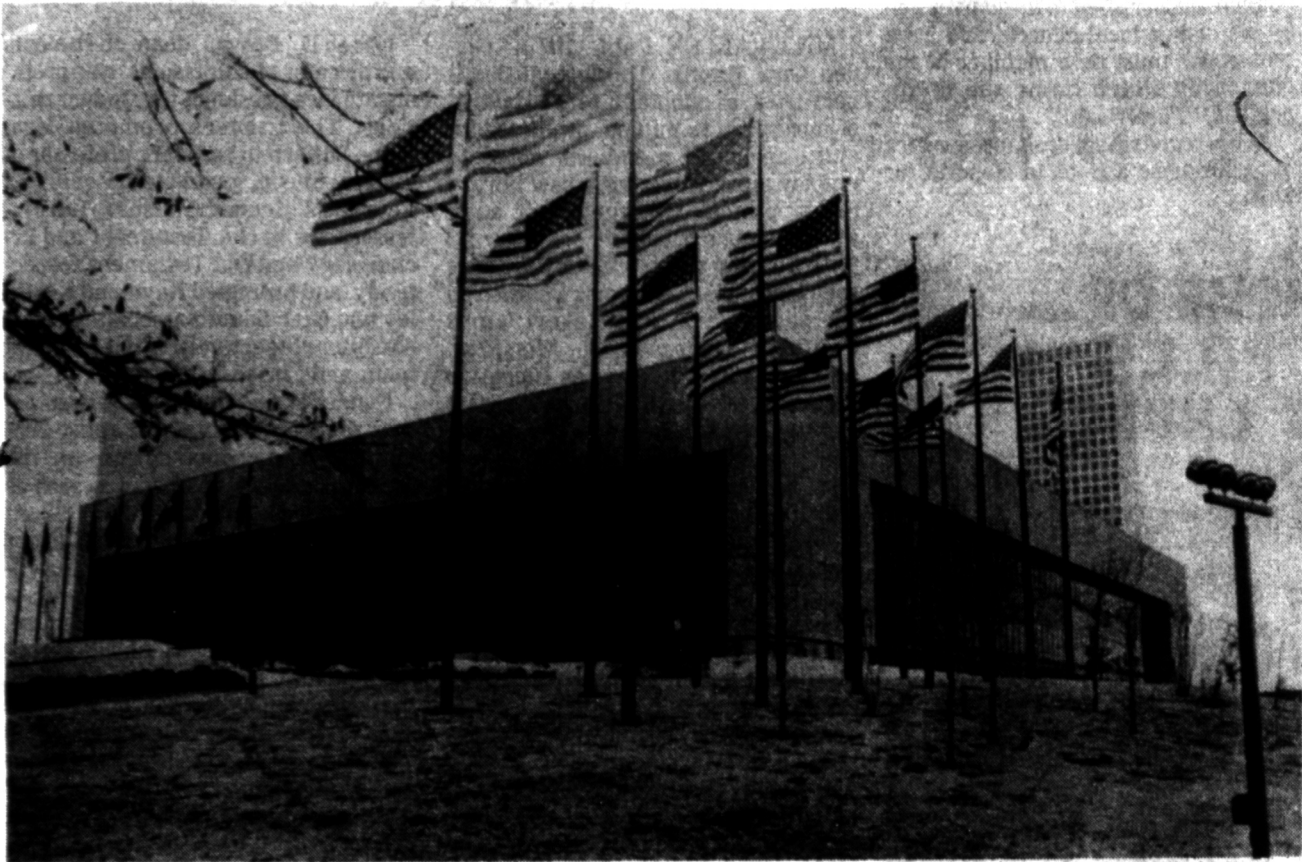
Routh has seen the convention vote strongly on one side of an issue, then reverse itself shortly thereafter. For example, in 1963 messengers resolved that ministers should have the option to participate in Social Security, when in 1969 they said participation violated traditional tenets of separation of church and state.

Routh is sure that Southern Baptists' confidence in the structure, mission and leadership of the SBC remains strong. He cited as an example a man who willed his entire estate to the SBC, saying "I have confidence that the SBC will know better how to use these resources to the glory of God than any other organization to which I could leave them."

"This gives me cause for concern because you can't help but pray, O God, we must never do anything to destroy this kind of confidence," Routh says. "We must never do anything to make Southern Baptists feel this confidence is misplaced."

He states unhesitatingly that apathy is the greatest obstacle to the Bold Mission Thrust goal of presenting the gospel to everyone in the world by the year 2000 and to the continued growth of the SBC.

"I'm concerned in terms of stewardship, but (Continued on Page 3)



The Summit is site of the 1979 Southern Baptist Convention; home of professional basketball, tennis and soccer

teams. It will seat 17,200 for the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday sessions of the convention.

The

Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 1979

Volume CIII, Number 19

Bold Mission Thrust Rally Set For SBC

HOUSTON, Texas (BP) — Southern Baptists will seek a new president, beam an AstroDome rally throughout the U.S. via two satellites, listen to a recently freed Soviet dissident and conduct a host of business when the Southern Baptist Convention convenes in Houston, June 12-14.

SBC President Jimmy R. Allen, who will preside over the 122nd annual session of the 134-year-old SBC will step down after two one-year terms in the office and messengers will elect a successor.

A Bold Mission Thrust Rally will seek to fill the 57,000-seat AstroDome, as Southern Baptists dedicate more than 1,100 missionaries and challenge 1,000 others to dedicate themselves to missionary service.

Allen and evangelist Billy Graham will close out the two-hour service, which takes the place of the SBC's Wednesday evening session and will focus attention on the SBC's Bold Mission Thrust goal to proclaim the message of Christ to the entire world by the year 2000.

The rally — also featuring an 8,000 voice choir, a procession of 144 flags of states and nations where the SBC has mission work, and mission speakers — will be beamed via Western Union's

Westar 1 and RCA's Satcom 1. The signal will be transmitted to large screens at public rallies in at least a dozen cities, to a host of church rallies, and to cable, commercial and public broadcasting TV outlets.

A late addition to the program, Georgi Vins of the Soviet Union will address the Thursday evening closing session of the SBC. He is one of a battery of speakers scheduled at the (Continued on Page 3)

Bold Mission Thrust Rally Telecasts

The Bold Mission Thrust Rally at 7 p.m. on June 13 from the AstroDome in Houston during the Southern Baptist Convention will be telecast live by satellite transmission and carried by the following cable facilities in Mississippi:

In Jackson, Capitol Cablevision, Channel 10, and in the auditoriums of Broadmoor and Alta Woods churches.

In Meridian, TV Selection System, Channel 12, and in the auditorium of First Church.

In Hattiesburg, General Electric Cablevision, Channel 6, and in the (Continued on Page 3)

Mississippians To Appear At National WMU Meeting

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Mississippi executive secretary Earl Kelly and Jackson pastor, Frank Pollard, will be featured during the national annual meeting of Woman's Missionary Union. The annual meeting will be held June 10-11 at the Civic Center Music Hall in Houston, Tex., prior to the Southern Baptist Convention.

Earl Kelly will represent Mississippi in a segment called "Churches Reaching Out in My State and Around the World," during the Monday morning, 9:30 session. He will be joined by other state Baptist convention executives.

Frank Pollard will be a panelist interviewed during the Monday evening session which begins at 7:00. Pollard, along with four other pastors and one pastor's wife, will talk about pastors and WMU working together through the church.

Pollard will tell about his church's missions weekends led by the WMU director which have resulted in a Lottie Moon Christmas Offering exceeding \$80,000.

Others with Mississippi ties on the program are Victor Kaneubbe and William G. Tanner. Kaneubbe, who served for three years as home missionary in Philadelphia, Miss., will appear in the pastors segment. He will share the success story of WMU work in his Indian Baptist Church in Phoenix, Ariz.

Tanner, executive director - treasurer of the Home Mission Board, will bring that agency's report to WMU during the Sunday afternoon session which begins at 3:00. Tanner served as pastor in Gulfport early in his ministry.

Serving as a page for the WMU meeting will be Susan Washburn of

Blue Mountain. Miss Washburn is a member of the 1979 Acteens National Advisory Panel. She will be presented to the assembly during the Monday morning session.

Also appearing during the two-day event will be Baker James Cauthen, Porter W. Routh, and Jimmy Allen. Cauthen and Routh, who will retire this year from their SBC posts, will be honored.

WMU will honor Cauthen as he brings the Foreign Mission Board report in his last message to WMU as executive director of that agency. That will be during the Sunday afternoon session. Routh, executive secret- (Continued on Page 3)

Two Meridian Men Repair Three Chapels In Nevada

Three Baptist mission buildings in northern Nevada needed repairs, and La Vern Inzer, home missionary stationed in Carlin, Nevada, asked for help. George Waldo and Leonard Holloway answered the call and drove through from Meridian to Carlin, in spite of the fuel problem. Waldo is a member of Arrowood Church, Meridian, and Holloway is a member of Poplar Springs Drive.

The men arrived at Carlin on Saturday, May 5, late at night. Holloway and Inzer had a reunion, since they were classmates at Mississippi College. (Nevada Baptists' state president, Rudy Duet, and the executive secretary for the Nevada State Baptist Convention, Ernie Myers, are also both Mississippi College graduates.) Holloway has served pastorates in Jackson and Meridian.

Sunday, May 6, was filled with the usual church activities of a mission field. Monday, Inzer accompanied Waldo and Holloway to the Wildhorse Chapel to do electrical repair work. On Tuesday morning, work was resumed at Wildhorse and continued until supplies were exhausted.

Then the men went on to Mountain City where a mobile chapel trailer was in dire need of electrical work, which was done. The three men then visited a local church family, the Don Tomkins, who served supper to them.

Wednesday, electrical work on the Reese-Antelope Valley Chapel was begun. In the evening the workers ate a meal at the home of a local church family, the Arthur Atens (Mrs. Aten is the former Judy Campbell of Laurel, who was a member of the 1972 BSU Mississippi work crew that built the chapel.)

Thursday, the men went back to complete the Wildhorse Chapel work. At Wildhorse the Archie Corbari fam- (Continued on Page 3)

Missionaries' Tax Sting Of \$1 Million Looms

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — A 1978 Congressional act that may cost Southern Baptist missionaries as much as \$1 million annually in federal income taxes is causing concern at the Foreign Mission Board.

The Foreign Earned Income Act of 1978 eliminates a provision which previously excluded income up to \$20,000 for U.S. citizens working for charitable and religious organizations and living in foreign countries. The provision had covered all missionaries under appointment by the board who qualified as bona fide residents of foreign countries.

But starting with the 1979 taxable year, missionaries' income will be subject to taxation, according to Sidney C. Reber, director of the board's management services division. Even with new deductions which would be allowed under the act, Reber estimates that several hundred thousand dollars (perhaps approaching \$1 million) in additional tax will be imposed on the missionaries' 1979 income.

"We believe that Congress did not intend for this act to present a hardship for public charities and religious organizations," said Reber. "We believe it must have been an oversight."

Because missionary salaries are based on a minimum support figure, the board has appointed a special subcommittee to study the situation and determine if the board can help missionaries with the taxes. But with budget figures already tight, additional expenses of this possible mag-

nitude could force some overseas programs to be reduced or eliminated.

The board committee has urged Southern Baptists to ask their congressmen to support legislation that would restore the previous income exclusion provisions for employees of public charities and religious organizations.

Members of the board's committee are: Joe N. McKeever of Mississippi, chairman; Mrs. Lucile S. Alexander of Florida; and John W. Patterson, (Continued on Page 3)

Registration Urged For RA Camps

With the opening session of Royal Ambassador camp only a few weeks away, all registrations for camp should be mailed to the Brotherhood Department as soon as possible, according to Rusty Griffin, RA director for Mississippi. Several weeks are near capacity, he said.

"The new facility at Central Hills will give boys an exciting week of camp life. Canoeing, fishing, swimming and horseback riding are highlighted activities each day," Griffin added. Special missions emphasis will be conveyed through presentations by (Continued on Page 3)

Women At Seminars Urged To Start Day With Prayer

By Tim Nicholas

Baptist women in a half dozen Mississippi cities were told of a way to look at the responsibilities they have and how to give everyone what they will need.

The answer came in a series of Women's Seminars held all over North Mississippi this spring with Ethel McKeithen and Mrs. Howard Taylor of Greenville leading. The seminars were developed by Miss McKeithen of the Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union.

That answer, which Mrs. Taylor said is one that works and one that women generally don't follow, is to begin each day with the prayer that God will stay nearby all day.

Mrs. Taylor, wife of the pastor of Greenville's Calvary Baptist Church, said that morning prayer was "the only way to have a victorious Christian life."

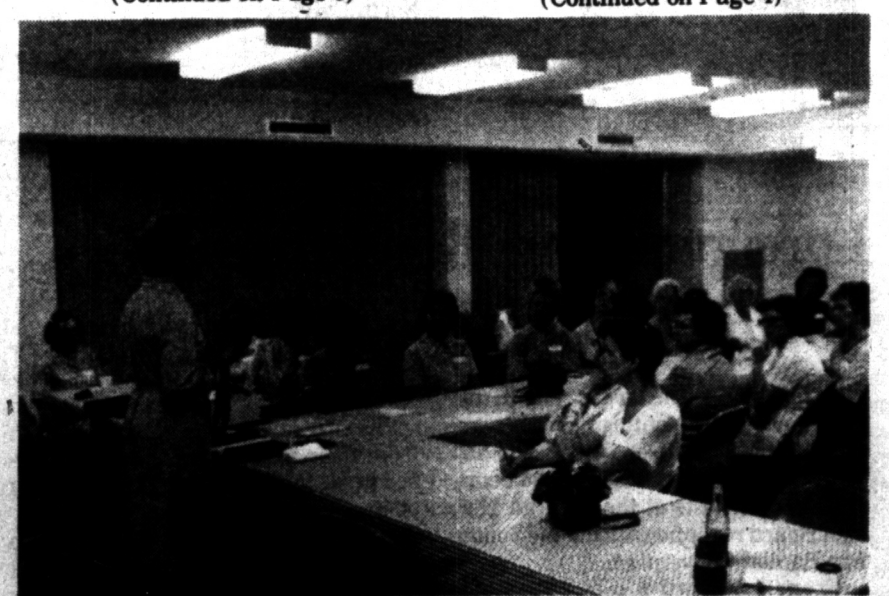
But what to pray for? She and Miss McKeithen said that many people will rise early for a prayer and Bible reading time and feel that they have prayed out after only five minutes.

The leaders listed the needs of children as being a priority for prayer. Said Mrs. Taylor, "How can you send a teenager out every day without pray-

ing for protection against the things they are going to face?"

The conveners suggested a prayer list would be important and they outlined a listing by Don Miller called "The hour that changes your life, your home, your church, your world."

(Continued on Page 5)



Ethel McKeithen of Mississippi WMU, leads seminar at First Baptist Church, Winona.

Published Since 1877

JUN. 12 1979

Revival Results

Good News Mississippi

This is a partial listing of April Revival Results. More results will be printed in future issues.

Church	By Letter	By Baptism	Church	By Letter	By Baptism
Yazoo					
Benton	0	1			
Calvary	7	5			
Tinsley	0	1			
Total	7	7			
Yalobusha					
Camp Ground	0	1			
Tillatobia	0	1			
Water Valley, First	1	0			
Total	1	2			
Benton					
Ashland	4	10			
Bluff Spring	1	1			
Canaan	2	1			
Flat Rock	1	1			
Pine Grove	0	1			
Total	8	14			
Lebanon					
Bowie St.	4	0			
Calvary, H	3	22			
Cartersville	0	4			
Crestview	1	5			
Fellowship	0	2			
Glendale, First	0	3			
Green's Creek	0	3			
Hattiesburg, First	2	1			
(By Statement)	1				
Immanuel	0	4			
Main St.					
Hattiesburg	7	6			
Petal - Harvey	2	7			
Pineview	0	2			
Providence	0	1			
Rawls Springs	2	39			
Ridgecrest	1	0			
(By Statement)	1				
Sunrise	0	4			
Thirty-Eighth Ave.	8	5			
Total	32	108			
Monroe					
Aberdeen, FBC	0	1			
Athens	0	3			
Becker	0	1			
Bethel	1	4			
Cason	4	11			
Center Hill	0	4			
Central Grove	0	4			
Friendship	2	5			
Greenwood Springs	3	2			
Hamilton	0	2			
Liberty	0	7			
New Hope	1	7			
New Prospect	0	2			
Southside	0	2			
Trinity	0	3			
Total	11	55			
Noxubee					
Brooksville	0	5			
Calvary, Macon	4	4			
Macon, First	1	15			
Total	5	24			
Washington					
Alexander Memorial	3	13			
Calvary	5	10			
Emmanuel	0	1			
Glendale	2	0			
Greenfield	2	4			
Leland, First	2	6			
Second, Greenville	2	3			
Southside	0	4			
Total	16	41			
Panola					
Batesville, First	1	11			
Calvary	0	1			
Como	1	1			
Crenshaw	5	1			
Easley Memorial	0	1			
Enon	0	3			
First Faith	3	8			
North Batesville	0	4			
Peach Creek	2	0			
Sardis, First	3	6			
Shady Grove	0	2			
Tocowa	0	2			
Total	15	40			
Grenada					
Emmanuel	0	1			
Friendship	0	4			
Hebron	1	2			
Total	1	7			
Pontotoc					
Algoma	0	3			
Cherry Creek	1	1			
Hebron	1	0			
Liberty	0	4			
Midway	4	0			
Pontotoc, First	1	0			
Shady Grove	3	19			
Toxish	0	2			
Valley Grove	0	3			
West Heights	6	14			
Woodland	2	2			
Total	18	48			
Simpson					
Beulah	1	0			
Corinth	0	1			
Dry Creek	0	2			
Magee, First	3	1			
New Bethlehem	1	1			
Pine Grove	1	0			
Poplar Springs	0	2			
Weathersby	0	5			
Mendenhall, First	1	6			
Total	7	18			
Tallahatchie					
Cascilla	0	3			
Friendship, East	1	0			
Mt. Pisgah	0	1			
Paul	0	3			
Sumner, First	1	7			
Total	2	14			
Tippah					
Academy	7	8			
Chalybeate	0	2			
Falkner	2	1			
Harmony	8	6			
Oakland	0	2			
Palmer	0	2			
Pleasant Hill	0	3			
Springdale	4	5			
West Ripley	0	1			
Total	21	30			
Union					
Port Gibson	5	9			
Total	6	10			
Valhalla					
Crystal Springs	0	2			
Lexie	0	1			
Mesa	1	5			
Salem	1	0			
Tylertown	4	0			
Union	0	2			
Total	6	10			
Union County					
Beulah	0	5			
Center	0	3			
Ellistown	1	11			
Fredonia	0	13			
Harmony	0	6			
Ingomar	0	4			
Jericho	2	19			
Liberty	0	2			
Macedonia	0	5			
Martin	0	8			
Neely Memorial	1	6			
New Harmony	1	0			
New Oak Grove	2	3			
Northside	0	14			
Temple	1	2			
Zion Hill	1	2			
Clark Street Mission	0	18			
Total	9	121			
Warren					
Bowmar Avenue	11	6			
Calvary	2	13			
Vicksburg, First	2	0			
Grace	12	17			
Highland	5	5			
Immanuel	6	0			
Northside	0	4			
Trinity	1	6			
LeTourneau Plant	0	26			
Total	39	77			
Neshoba					
Beacon St.	3	3			
Bond	0	7			
E. Philadelphia	1	4			
Good Hope	0	1			
New Black Jack	0	1			
North Calvary	1	0			
Old Pearl Valley	0	7			
Pine Grove	0	2			
Total	5	25			

SBC Registration Process Outlined

HOUSTON, Texas (BP) — Messengers registering for the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Houston are urged to bring properly filled-out and signed registration cards to the convention to speed the registration process.

SBC Registration Secretary Lee Porter said, "Last year in Atlanta, registration moved so well that no one stood in line more than five minutes. We hope to do as well in Houston."

For the second year, Porter said, registration will open on the Sunday preceding the convention. To facilitate registration of convention messengers who also attend the Woman's Missionary Union sessions at the Civic Center and the Pastors' Conference at the Houston Coliseum, registration booths will open in the Coliseum from 2 p.m. until 10 p.m., Sunday, June 10. They will also be open on Monday from 8:30 a.m. until 10 p.m. in the Coliseum. Registration will move to the Summit, site of the SBC, on Tuesday morning.

Porter said registration cards are available from state Baptist convention offices. He urged messengers to fill them out carefully in advance because "they become a part of the permanent historical record of the convention."

"If messengers fail to bring proper credentials to the convention," Porter emphasized, "they must contact the credentials committee to receive their cards. The credentials committee must also approve the cards after they have been filled out at the convention. Though this does not usually take more than 10 minutes, it is an inconvenience. To facilitate registration, it is much better to bring cards from your church properly filled-out in advance and signed."

He also urged messengers to write their convention address at the bottom of each card so that they may be contacted if necessary.

Porter said each church cooperating with the convention is entitled to at least one messenger. Up to a limit of 10, each church is entitled to an additional messenger for each 250 members or for each \$250 contributed to the work of the convention.

"Each messenger must be appointed and certified to the convention by his or her local church, and each messenger must be a member of the church by which he or she is appointed," Porter said.

At the registration desk messengers may purchase a Book of Reports for \$2.00.



A Vacation Substitute

E. R. Willis was among 10 men from Hinds-Madison Association who went last fall to Vallejo, Calif., to do mission construction work.

He envisioned doing electrical work, but material available and job progress indicated that he should help with installation of metal balcony railing and spray painting of class rooms.

"I worked with a family of fellow Christians for a week and was pretty tired at the end," said Willis. He said he enjoyed a complete change of pace,

"which substituted very well for a vacation."

Added Willis, "I was given opportunities for public and private witness and testimony. I feel that I am a part of the ministry of the Gospel."

In the picture left to right kneeling: Buddy Bailey, Barry Curtis, Marvin Martin. Standing: B. K. Melton, E. R. Willis, Spurgeon Palmer, Gene Dobson (pastor of North Hills Baptist Church), Larry Pepper, Charles Curtis, and Wayne Crenshaw.

Volunteer Need Noted For Uganda Rehabilitation

By Mary Jane Welch
NAIROBI, Kenya (BP) — Southern Baptist missionaries to Uganda are requesting seven volunteers and eight career missionaries to assist in community rehabilitation and restoring Baptist work after receiving assurance of religious freedom from the new government.

The Ugandan government has given Baptists responsibility for aid distribution in eastern Uganda, the area where Baptist work was strongest before they and 26 other religious groups were banned by former president Idi Amin in 1977.

A plan worked out by missionaries G. Webster Carroll and James L. Rice calls for churches in the villages to be distribution points for food, medical supplies, and agricultural aids flowing in from government and private relief agencies.

They have requested at least five

tons of powdered milk per month for the next six months from Southern Baptist hunger relief funds to go to Mombasa, a Kenya seaport, and are also requesting agricultural supplies for distribution.

On their first trip into Uganda, Carroll and Rice supervised distribution of 1,000 pounds of medical supplies provided by Medical Assistance Program (MAP) of Carol Stream, Ill. They anticipate 20 tons of intravenous fluids from MAP and 20 tons of high protein food supplements from other relief agencies coming to Mombasa within the next two months.

Restoration plans also call for reopening Baptist churches in Uganda and staffing five Bible schools with teams of missionaries and pastors from the Baptist mission of Kenya and the Baptist Convention of Kenya on a rotating basis. The schools meet one week each month.



New Mission For Baldwin

Ingram Church at Baldwin is getting ready to start a mission in west Baldwin. The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board owns the lot and is lending a mobile chapel that will be used when the worship services begin. The chapel was recently moved to the site, pictured. Neil Moore, director of missions for Prentiss Association, said that a housing project is across the street and a housing development will be going up nearby, so that this seems to be an ideal spot for a new church. Wallace Pannell is the Ingram pastor.

Golden Gate Elects Cauthen For Cauthen Missions Chair

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) — Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary trustees adopted a 1979-80 budget of more than \$2 million, promoted faculty and staff members, voted to employ an architect for a new library and approved construction of additional campus housing.

Also during their three-day meeting they elected Baker James Cauthen as the seminary's first Baker James Cauthen Professor of Missions. Cauthen, who will retire as executive director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in December, will join the seminary faculty for at least a year beginning in the fall of 1980.

The trustees also viewed an artist's sketch for a proposed World Mission Center and chapel on the campus, a concept designed to take advantage of the strategic location of Golden Gate Seminary in the multi-ethnic Bay area. It will give opportunity for students who are training for missions service to serve in language churches and to study and participate in cultural activities of the various groups. The Baker James Cauthen Chair of World Missions will be part of the center.

Nobel D. Brown, dean of students and director of admissions, was promoted to vice president for student relations. The trustees promoted Mrs. Orine Suffern to assistant professor of church music, promoted Robert L. Cate and J. Kenneth Eakins to full professorships in Old Testament and archaeology and Old Testament respectively, and promoted Naymond Keathley and Glen Saul to associate professorships respectively in New Testament and Christian ethics.

Funds for the library have been authorized by the Southern Baptist Convention and construction of the \$2,985,000 facility will begin as soon as plans are complete.

Trustees also endorsed the Pioneer Village, a proposed 40-unit housing village, and approved construction of additional housing units. Enrollment reports show the largest spring enrollment in the seminary's history and that applications for the fall are running 40 percent above last year.

W. Morgan Patterson, dean of students, announced degrees and diploma level courses will be offered in Salt Lake City, Utah, beginning in the fall of 1979.

FMB Gets Farm

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — A 233-acre farm near Richmond has been donated to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board as the site for a new orientation center for missionaries preparing to go overseas.

Harwood and Louise Blanks Cochran, a couple active in Richmond's Tabernacle Baptist Church, donated the property. Cochran is chairman of the board of Overnite Transportation

Company of Richmond, a trucking firm he founded in 1935 and has built into the eighth largest motor common carrier of general commodities in the United States.

The land, conservatively valued at \$500,000, is called "Gold Mine Farm," since at one time prospectors tried unsuccessfully to pan for gold in a creek on the property.

The board now uses facilities at Cal-laway Gardens, near Pine Mountain, Ga., to provide 14-week training sessions for missionaries going to 94 countries around the world. But with growing numbers being appointed for overseas service, the board voted in April to "look with favor" toward developing its own center in the Richmond area nearer the board's home offices.

A committee has been appointed to plan development of the program and do a financial feasibility study. No estimates on cost of buildings and other facilities can be made until the studies are completed.

About 200 missionaries a year receive orientation at the Georgia resort facility, where use is limited to its "off" season. But it is envisioned that the multiple-use center in Richmond eventually would serve a much larger number.

Honduras Gets New Schoolhouse

One of the difficulties missionaries on foreign soil so often encounter is the difficulty of obtaining adequate teachers and adequate facilities necessary for the education of their children.

Evangelical missionaries in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, Central America, are cooperating to build an adequate English-speaking school to serve the needs of their children as well as the needs of several hundred Honduran children.

Many difficulties have been encountered in the construction of this much needed mission school, and James Cecil of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board based in Richmond, Virginia, called Bert Jones, minister of education at Westwood Baptist Church of Cleveland, Tenn., requesting a team of men to go to Honduras to assist with this vital project. Jones is a former staffer at First Baptist Church, Laurel.

The Honduras Baptist Dental Mission based in First Baptist Church of Laurel, Mississippi offered supplies.

Jones reported that prayer pulled the crew through bad circumstances a number of times and they were able to obtain proper building materials and finished their week in Honduras with the roof of the building in place.

Foreign Board Reception Will Feature Missionaries

HOUSTON — The largest city in the South will add a contingency of more than 150 "world citizens" to its population when missionaries from 38 countries greet guests at the Foreign Mission Board reception during the Southern Baptist Convention.

From 4:30 until 6 p.m., Tuesday, June 12, conventioners are invited to attend the reception at Houston's South Main Baptist Church, 4100 South

Main. The 150 missionaries, on furlough from their assignments, will be dressed in costumes depicting the country or areas where they work.

Baker J. Cauthen, retiring executive director of the Foreign Mission Board, and his wife Eloise will be on hand for the festivities. The board's newly elected president, Jack W. Patterson, will also greet guests.

Brotherhood Commission Adopts 1980 Budget

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP) — Trustees of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission approved an operating budget of \$2,285,350 for 1979-80, requested two missions volunteers to do Brotherhood work, and heard a challenge from a retiring denominational executive to enlist more laymen in Christian missions endeavors.

The new budget, up four percent from the present one, calls for an average increase

Vins Says Western Support Vital To Soviet Dissidents

NEW YORK (RNS) — Western support that is non-violent but highly visible and sustained is vital to the success of the Soviet dissident movement, according to Pastor Georgi Vins, exiled leader of the unregistered reform Baptists in the USSR.

"Speaking from personal experience, even if I had not been sent out of the Soviet Union I would have been dependent to a large degree on Western support," he said in his first exclusive interview in the West.

"All Western support — supplying information, demonstrations and prayer, help a great deal."

He was interviewed here by Michael Bourdeaux of Keston College in England, author of *Faith on Trial in Russia*, who flew to New York to be with Pastor Vins upon his release April 27.

Mr. Vins, 51, was sentenced in 1975 to five years in a labor camp and five years of internal exile on charges of "defaming the Soviet state" and "infringing on the rights of citizens under the guise of performing religious ceremonies."

He was a leader in the Ukraine of the group of reform Baptists (Initiativniki) who broke in 1965 with the officially registered All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians and Baptists over the issue of submitting to the authority of the officially-atheistic state.

New Exile

Mr. Vins said he completed his five-year prison sentence in late March. He was enroute to his place of exile in northern Tyumen when informed on April 26 of a sudden change in destination to a "new place of exile."

Commenting on the effectiveness of Western campaigns to help Soviet dissidents, Mr. Vins said "as a Christian I am against any violent demonstrations which could result in injury or damage to property."

"Peaceful demonstrations arising out of Christian principles are important," he said. "Whenever there was support action in the West, I was treated better by wardens and prison administrators. When there was no support, conditions immediately became worse. Western support to some degree influences the authorities,

makes them feel (to a certain extent) under obligation."

Describing his prison experiences, Mr. Vins said "Soviet prisons are full of people who have lost everything, including any faith they may have had."

"The majority are embittered and form a disillusioned, unbelieving mass," the Baptist dissident leader said.

Mr. Vins spoke with great warmth and gratitude of his many fellow prisoners, which included believers of many denominations, who offered him their support and understanding.

Warm Friendship

He said an especially warm friendship developed between him and a Pentecostal Presbyterian from Nikolayevsk, Mikhail Ivanovich Khebnov, who spent five years in the camps for holding prayer meetings. He said his Pentecostal friend has been exiled to Yakutia for five years.

Asked about his state of health, Pastor Vins said he will be having a general medical check-up, but his only real problem is a heart condition. "At the moment I feel extremely tired, no doubt due to the events of the last few days," he said, "but I am sure this is a temporary weakness and will pass as soon as I have had a rest."

Describing the period immediately before his expulsion to the U.S., Mr. Vins said he and about 50 other prisoners who were to be exiled to the Tyumen Oblast arrived in Tyumen on April 25 after a difficult journey on cattle trucks.

"My wife arrived on the same day and we were allowed to see each other for one hour, talking through telephone receivers on opposite ends of glass," he said. "My wife said she had been informed that I would be exiled to Beryozovo in northern Tyumen. My wife was allowed to give me a parcel of food which I was later able to share with my cell-mates."

Events moved quickly after this, Mr. Vins recalled. On April 26, he was "woken up early" and informed by KGB agents that he was going to a "new place of exile." He was driven to a temporary detention center near Moscow.

On April 27, he was issued a new suit of clothes. He was informed by a Soviet official who refused to give him a name that Mr. Vins was stripped of Soviet citizenship for hostile activity, by decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and was to be deported to the U.S.

"I denied having engaged in any hostile activity, pointing out that all my activity was of a purely religious nature," Mr. Vins said. "I stressed that even if my activities had been hostile (which I deny) I had served the sentence handed down by the court and was now facing only the exile part of my sentence."

Mr. Vins asked that his fraternal greetings be conveyed to all who prayed for him and demonstrated their support in any way for him, and for all those imprisoned for their faith.

Reckless youth makes rueful age. — Franklin

Adult Classes

(Continued from Page 1)

Adult Start-A-Class, Strickland's concept of using a team to begin a new class to reach persons not previously enrolled in Sunday School, will help Christian adults to witness, he said.

"It is usually the presence of unsaved members in adult classes that makes the class evangelistic," he said. "Adults witness to persons who are available, with whom they feel comfortable and when they think they will not be rejected. Witnessing to a fellow class member meets all the criteria."

9,000 Students, Not 20,000

Last week's Baptist Record story on the SBC Presidents and rebuttal of "blanket accusations listed about 20,000 students enrolled in the Southern Baptist seminaries. That figure was incorrect. The correct number of students is nearly 9,000.

Thursday, June 7, 1979

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3

Mississippians Aid Work Of Nevada Baptists

(Continued from Page 1)

ily provided meals for the threesome. Their hospitality included a barbecue and fish dinner at the Wildhorse Restaurant given in honor of Waldo and Holloway. Several families from Mountain City and Carlin Churches also attended the dinner.

Friday the three completed work on the Reese-Antelope Valley Chapel.

Each of the three chapels is the only church group in its respective community.

Inzer said, "Our many thanks to the men personally and their churches, Poplar Springs Drive Church and Arrowood Church, and friends who made possible a very meaningful and needful trip to a mission field. The major expense for the journey was born by these two men themselves."

This was not Waldo's first mission tour. He worked on the mission in Carlin when the building was going up. And his home town church of Byhalia, Mississippi, provided all the electrical needs for that building.

Inzer said, "Our work in Nevada would not be as advanced as it is without much help provided by individuals, churches, associations, and state conventions of the South, not to mention the Home Mission Board."

La Vern and Elva Inzer will celebrate the 20th anniversary of Baptist missions in Nevada on Saturday, August 3, at the Missions Complex in Carlin, Nevada, at 224 6th Street.

WMU Meeting

(Continued from Page 1)

ary - treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee, will speak and be honored Monday morning.

Jimmy Allen, SBC president, will bring the closing message of the annual meeting on Monday evening.

The WMU Annual Meeting is open to the public. There is no registration fee or procedure.

Bold Mission Thrust Rally Set

(Continued from page 1)

three-day meeting of the nation's largest Protestant denomination.

Vins, a dissident Soviet Baptist leader, was released along with four other Soviet dissidents, after months of negotiations by the Carter White House, in exchange for two Soviet spies.

Other speakers at the meeting, which will center on Bold Mission Thrust, include a variety of personalities. They are Charles Colson, former White House staff assistant under Nixon who now runs a Christian ministry for prisoners; Jerry Clower, country humorist from Yazoo City, Miss.; Porter W. Routh, who will retire July 31 as executive secretary - treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee; Emmanuel Scott, a black Baptist pastor from Los Angeles; Baker J. Cauthen, retiring executive director of the SBC Foreign Mission Board; William Hinson, pastor of First Baptist Church, New Orleans, who will deliver the convention sermon; Allen, who will give the president's address; and others.

More than 18,000 persons around the nation are expected to register for the convention, which last year in Atlanta registered an all-time record of 22,872.

They will face a number of business items, in addition to speakers; agency reports, resolutions, inspirational sessions and a variety of musical presentations.

In other business, messengers will vote on a proposed \$83 million national Cooperative Program unified budget and a \$1,164,000 convention operating budget for 1979-80.

The messengers will also hear recommendations from the Executive Committee that the SBC not establish a seventh seminary and that no merger take place between the SBC Brotherhood Commission and SBC Sunday School Board.

The seminary proposal was recommended for study at last year's SBC in Atlanta. The Executive Committee will recommend "that instead of a seventh seminary being considered, the six present SBC seminaries be requested to study and report to the Executive Committee's institutions workgroup how they can extend their ministries for meeting the needs for theological education in the state con-

ventions in the Northeast, the North Central, the West and the Northwest."

Both the Executive Committee and the Stewardship Commission will report on a motion last year regarding denominational policy on charges for certain special services rendered by SBC agencies to churches.

John Green, a pastor from Indianola, Fla., asked the Stewardship Commission to consider an alternate method to financing its Together We Build fund raising program, other than by charging churches using the service.

The Stewardship Commission, which charges the churches which use Together We Build on a cost-recovery basis, will respond, after a study, that "there is no more practical funding source available" than a direct charge to the limited number of churches which use the service.

Together We Build is a fund raising

technique, generally used for building, that secures money and pledges before a project is begun, thereby saving interest charges. The commission raised over \$30 million in this manner last year and over \$100 million since the program began in 1969. Together We Build draws no support from the Cooperative Program.

The Executive Committee will recommend adoption of a statement interpreting current practices concerning charges for services rendered by SBC agencies. The statement says there have been exceptions to the general rule that SBC agencies which receive Cooperative Program or designated gifts make no charges to churches for their services.

The exceptions include allowing agencies to charge which "provide a service and/or materials to a limited number of churches where the service or materials is for fund-raising."

Campers On Mission

Plan Pigeon Forge Rally

ATLANTA — The seventh annual National Campers on Mission Rally will be held June 8-10 in Pigeon Forge, Tenn., in the Smoky Mountains near Gatlinburg.

More than 500 Campers on Mission will participate in weekend activities at the Safari Camping Resort.

Special features of this year's rally include presentations by the US-2 missionary couple stationed at Gatlinburg as directors of Smoky Mountain Resort Ministries, Joanie and Stan Albright.

A yearly treat for campers is the national covered dish dinner. Campers come to the rally prepared to serve food from home. Dishes from past years included moose from Wyoming, black-eyed peas from Alabama, gumbo from Louisiana and seafood from Maryland.

Other parts of the program for campers include a special guided tour by a Southern Baptist layman who works with the national park service, Glenn Cardwell, and performances by a student summer missions resort music/drama team who will work in Gatlinburg this summer.

For additional information on the rally and to reserve a spot in the Safari

Champagne Keeps Baseball Team From National Finals

PHOENIX, Ariz. (BP) — Grand Canyon College's top-ranked baseball team will not compete in the NAIA World Series in Nashville because players celebrated victory in the area tournament with champagne.

Administrators of the school, owned and operated by the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention, said none of the champagne was consumed, but its appearance in the locker room violated published rules prohibiting the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages on campus.

A picture published in a Phoenix newspaper and transmitted around the country via Associated Press news service showed Grand Canyon players

pouring champagne over each other after their 10-2 win against Sam Houston State, May 18.

Explaining the decision to keep the team from competing in the National Association for Intercollegiate Athletics World Series, after it had walked over all its competition, Athletic Administrator Bill Estes said, "We have to be most responsible to the constituency that birthed us."

He referred to the 100,000 Southern Baptists in Arizona who founded the college and support it financially, and the other 13 million Southern Baptists in the United States who traditionally oppose the use of alcoholic beverages.

"We're not saying they sinned," Estes said. "But they violated a rule with action that's diametrically opposed to the mandate Arizona Southern Baptists gave us. They gave us a black eye in front of all those people."

Grand Canyon finished the year with a 58-10 record and the No. 1 NAIA ranking. David Lipscomb College in Nashville, 1977 NAIA champions and runner-up this year to Birmingham-Southern in the Area 5 playoffs, will replace Grand Canyon.

Jack Johnson Elected To Arizona Executive Post

PHOENIX, Ariz. (BP) — Jack Johnson, pastor of First Baptist Church, Ponca City, Okla., was elected executive director-treasurer of the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention in a special call session. He will take office in early June.

Messengers from Arizona Baptists' 287 churches and missions cast 90 percent of their ballots in favor of their executive board's earlier election of Johnson to succeed Roy F. Sutton, who retired Dec. 31, 1978. The Arizona convention's constitution requires affirmation for the chief executive by a two-thirds vote of the convention after election by the executive board.

A vote in a similar call convention in July 1978 failed by 11 votes to affirm the nomination of Mark Short for executive director-treasurer. Short, now church program consultant for the Louisiana Baptist Convention, was then a staff member of Houston's South Main Baptist Church.

Johnson, 44, has been at First Baptist since 1976 and is chairman of the administrative division of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma's executive board.

A pastor in California 19 years, he is

former president of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California and chairman of the board of trustees for California Baptist College.

Mississippi Channels On Telecast

(Continued from Page 1)

auditorium of First Church.

In McComb, Sammons Communications, Inc., Channel 7.

In Vicksburg, Vicksburg Video, Channel 9.

In a conference telephone conversation with executive secretaries of the state conventions where satellite transmissions of the rally will be picked up Allen asked for prayer that 1,000 new missionaries will be called out during the invitation time at the close of the service. He asked that as the coverage fades out during the invitation at the Astrodome the services in the churches would continue with invitations there. Billy Graham, who is to close the service, also participated in the telephone conference.

RA Dates

(Continued from Page 1)

home and foreign missionaries, he pointed out.

"All boys are invited to be a part of the new camp program at Central Hills this summer," Griffin emphasized. Dates for resident camp (grades 4-12) are June 25-29, July 2-6, July 9-13, July 16-20, July 23-27, July 30-August 3 and August 6-10. Two Dad-Lad weekends are planned for boys (grades 1-3) and dads on July 20-21 and July 27-28. Also two

New Tax Law

(Continued from Page 1)

Robert L. Davis, J. Roy Clifford and V. Allen Gaines, all of Virginia.

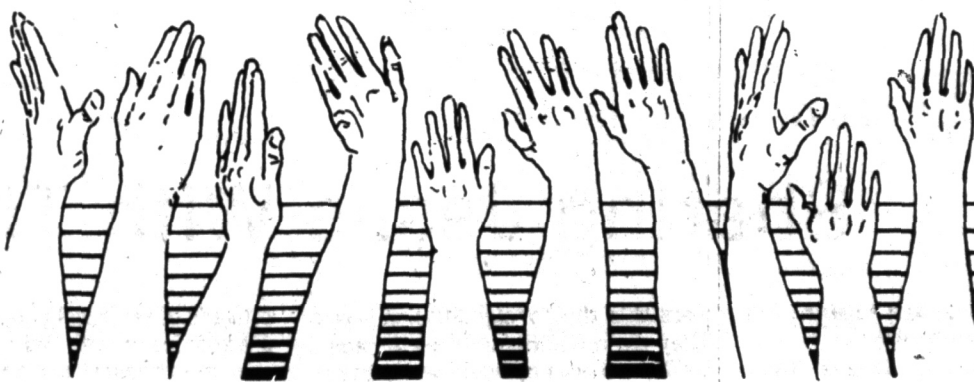
Another group working on the problem is the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service, Inc., an association of major charitable organizations. Lawyers for the group have prepared a presentation in support of a proposed amendment to the new tax law.

backpacking trips to the Ozarks are scheduled for July 16-20 and July 23-27.

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The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

Southern Baptists In Canada . . .

Should Messengers Be Seated?

As the giant ferry boat in the harbor at Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, slowly backed away from the pier to turn itself around and head back to Port Angeles, Washington, in the United States, I found that my attitudes concerning the Southern Baptists in Canada and their affiliation with the Southern Baptist Convention had begun to turn slowly from complete rejection to at least a willingness to listen to possibilities.

This may be a matter of discussion at this year's convention. It may not. It was last year and is a subject that has been hovering just below the horizon for several years.

There are Southern Baptists in Canada. I, honestly, was not aware of this. I had thought that there were some Baptists who wanted to become Southern Baptists to be able to take advantage of the opportunities that would be offered through such an affiliation. They are Southern Baptists already. They are going to be Southern Baptists whether or not their messengers are seated at the conventions.

My feeling has always been that there has to be a line somewhere on where messengers were to come from, and the constitution establishes that as being the United States and its territories. I was happy with that and still have no dissatisfaction with it. But I am disturbed because I can't decide how I should feel about seating messengers from Canada. I had no problems until I visited the Canadian Baptists. The moral is: if you don't want your provincial concepts challenged, don't look around.

The Southern Baptist churches in the four western provinces of Canada have been affiliated with the Northwest Baptist Convention, which is Washington and Oregon and part of Idaho, for sometime. Their problems began to surface slowly and were related to the need for, or at least being able to use, outside help such as other Southern Baptists. The Foreign Mission Board provides it, or the boards and agencies working with churches in the U.S. furnish it. Neither the Foreign Mission Board nor the Home Mission Board could work in Canada. There is no need for foreign missionaries. The

work is well organized, well staffed, and self supporting. The other agencies and boards could not relate because the churches are located outside the United States.

Yet these people are Southern Baptists just as surely as are the members of any Southern Baptist church in Mississippi.

"I attended a worship service on Sunday morning at the Royal Heights Baptist Church in Delta, British Columbia. Allen Schmidt is the pastor. A couple of years ago this graduate of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, a Texas Baptist school where Jesse Fletcher is now the president, and Southwestern Seminary was the president of the Northwest Convention; but he could not be a messenger to the Southern Baptist Convention.

On that Sunday this church was making arrangements for participating in the Southern Baptist Church Training doctrinal emphasis on salvation, it was in the midst of its Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, and its order of service would have fitted any Southern Baptist church except those that feel more comfortable with more of a "high church" setting. Its gifts to world missions through the Cooperative Program last year amounted to 14 percent of its income. In 1978 the Cooperative Program gifts were \$11,000, and an additional 5 percent went to associational missions. Including their own local missions efforts, the Royal Heights church gives 27 percent of its income in missions work.

Last year the matter of the Southern Baptists in Canada was addressed by the Southern Baptist Convention, and decisions were made. There still is no provision for seating messengers from those churches. Otherwise they are to be viewed as any other Southern Baptist church. The Home Mission Board's expertise and capabilities are available to them. The Sunday School Board may work with them in any manner that it provides services to churches. And any of the other agencies may do for the Canadian churches whatever it is they do for any Southern Baptist church.

The Canadians are happy with this arrangement, but there are two snags

still in evidence. One that the Canadian Baptists shrug off completely is that because their messengers cannot be seated at the conventions they have no voice in the distribution of their missions gifts. The other is more serious to the Canadians. They say their young people who feel called into foreign missions service cannot be appointed by the Foreign Mission Board because they live outside the United States.

Foreign Mission Board officials say this is not necessarily the case. They have had a policy that nationals of other lands not be appointed, but that was to keep from encouraging the products of foreign missions efforts to come here for an education and go back as foreign missionaries. It is felt they should go back to their native lands to work in the framework of the established methods and institutions there.

Concerning the Canadian Southern Baptists who feel called to foreign mission service, Foreign Mission Board officials would say don't give up without trying. It is true, they admit, that none has been appointed yet. "But the Lord works on both ends of the line," said Louis Cobbs, personnel secretary for the board. "If the Lord has called a young person into foreign service, surely He will provide a place

and a means of service," he declared. His plea was to give the board a chance to see what could be worked out.

Allen Schmidt is a Canadian educated in a Southern Baptist college and seminary. His church in Delta is located in a suburb of Vancouver, British Columbia. Bo Brantley is a Alabama boy who has gone to Canada to be pastor of the Victoria Baptist Church in Victoria, the capital of British Columbia. Both are Southern Baptist to the core.

These are not churches that have recently become Southern Baptist. Some 12 years ago my daughter sang in the youth choir of First Baptist Church, Dallas, and the choir made a tour of the four western provinces. Through all the years I had thought that they sang in churches of the Baptist Federation of Canada. They did not. Every church they visited was Southern Baptist.

On Sunday morning Weldon Stevens, the director of missions for the Olympic Association of the Northwest Convention, took me to Delta for worship services. Pastor Schmidt invited us to have lunch with him. On Monday Stevens and I took the ferry from Port Angeles, Wash., to Victoria. There we talked to Bo Brantley. Next week we will detail more of those two conversations. — DTM

Baptist Record Announces Rate Hike

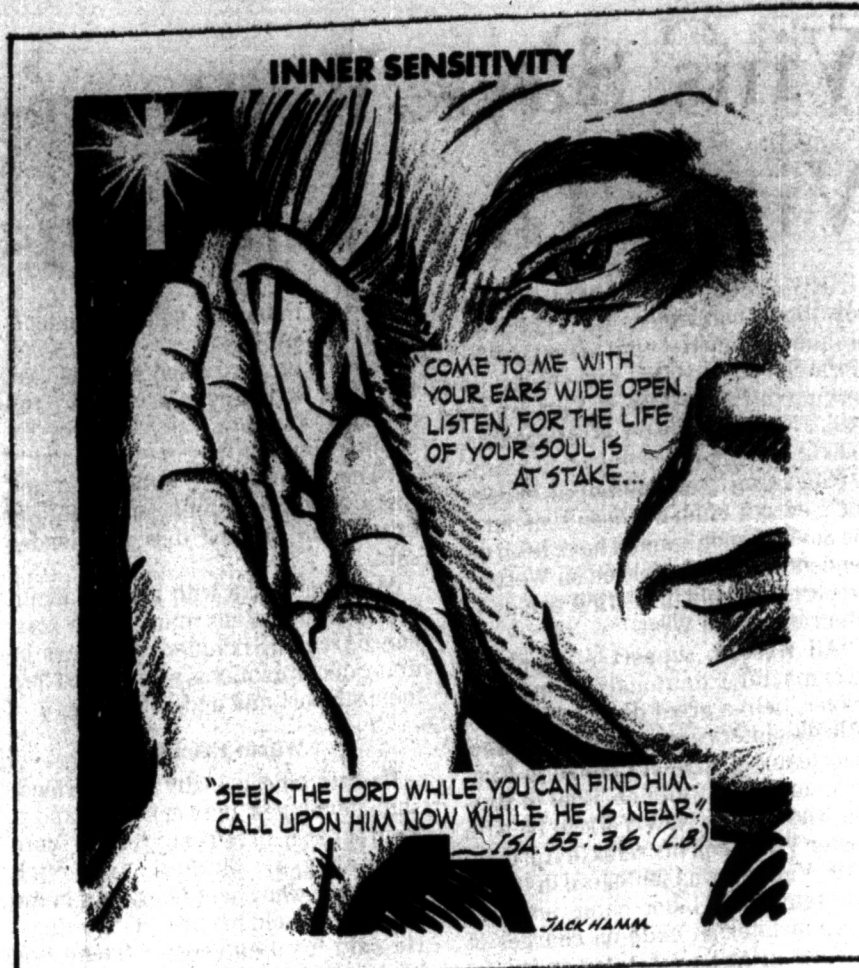
(Continued from Page 1)
per family per month. It has been 30 cents per month per family.

It is with reluctance that the Baptist Record is announcing these price increases. It has been two years since the last increase, however, and prices for postage, printing, and salaries have increased greatly since then.

The previous increase for the Every Family Plan came on Jan. 1, 1978, and was a 48-cent jump. The increase for Jan. 1, 1980, will be only a 36-cent rise. Members of the Baptist Record Advisory Committee were of the opinion that churches could handle smaller in-

creases better even if they had to come more often.

For many years the Baptist Record was self-sustaining. When postage rates and inflation began to make their inroads it became necessary to seek Cooperative Program funds to be able to take care of all of the expenses. All of the 34 Southern Baptist state papers receive Cooperative Program funds now in some form or another. We will continue to try to keep the circulation costs as low as possible in deference to the churches and at the same time seek the minimum amount possible from the Cooperative Program to make up the differences. — The editor



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

The Road Of Wonder

We are born, most of us, on a road of wonder. . . that leaves us wide-eyed and almost breathless with the thrilling question of childhood — what next? . . . The greatest thing about life is living, and to live is always to keep the sense of wonder, romance, and expectancy alive. When we leave this road, we die, though our public funeral may not be held for 25 years. — Frank Johnson Pippin

I like roads, all kinds of roads — abandoned ones where dead leaves and blackberry bushes have almost covered the ruts, bumpy unpaved ones with high red banks good for sliding down, twisting mountain roads, scenic roads like the Natchez Trace, and even the intricate interstates.

W. D. calls me nosy, but I prefer the term, "curious." There is not a place in the world, I suppose, that I should not like to explore and to learn more about its geography and its people.

On January 20, 1937, Franklin Delano Roosevelt took the oath of office for the second time, and in May of that year I finished the third grade. (I had skipped the second grade since my curiosity led me to read all the second grade books while I was still in the first.) That summer of 1937 Uncle Walter, my great-uncle, came for a visit and invited me to go home with him to Birmingham.

The 90-mile trip was my first on a Greyhound bus. It was my first chance to see a big city, so the road I traveled that morning was a road of wonder.

As we got into the mountains, and the curves sharpened, the bus driver would blow his horn as we approached each one. He permitted me to stand beside him so I could watch the mysterious road ahead. When I asked why he kept blowing the horn, he said anyone who happened to be on the other side of the hill would know we were coming and could get out of our way. I stood spellbound, wondering over and over what surprise would be around the next bend.

Uncle Walter and I got off the bus at Five Points. We stopped at a drug store, and he bought me a chocolate ice cream cone. Then we walked the few blocks to his house.

I had left my world of Big Little Books and Shirley Temple dolls and Little Orphan Annie radio programs and Ted, my feist dog, to find all kinds of new experiences.

There was a real sidewalk in front of the house, and a paved walkway, both marvelous to me. The walkway divided to go around a tree.

The white house was a two-story one, and the staircase so unusual to me that I walked up and down, up and down over and over. There were two bathrooms, one downstairs and one upstairs, both with gleaming white tubs on claw-like feet. If I chose, I could take a bath upstairs one day and downstairs the next.

Aunt Pearl asked me what I liked to eat, so she could cook it. She walked with me in the back yard to show me her hollyhocks. I explored the tiny back porch that had been enclosed with white latticework for privacy, and thought it the height of elegance.

My second cousins and I played Chinese checkers. We went to a theater, to a vaudeville show, and saw Mickey Mouse. We bought Fleer's Dubble Bubble Gum. I practiced that week until I achieved my goal — learning to blow a bubble gum bubble. Before I left, my bubbles were as big as those of anyone on the block.

Often grown-ups allow their childlike sense of wonder to wither, anesthetized by the round of routine duties, or by problems and worries.

As Wordsworth said, "The Youth . . . by the vision splendid is on his way attended; at length the Man perceives it die away and fade into the light of common day."

I hope I may never quit traveling the road of wonder. Something I read once in a Sunday School quarterly — I don't remember who said it — is good advice, if properly followed, on how to stay on the road: "Every day see something beautiful, say something beautiful, and do something beautiful."

Letters To The Editor

Please Sign Letters

From time to time the Baptist Record receives unsigned letters. Some of them contain very valid observations that should be shared with readers or for which the editor would like to express appreciation in a personal letter. When they are unsigned there is opportunity to do neither. If the writer requests it, the name of the writer can be withheld for any letter that is published. It cannot be published, however, unless it is signed. Please sign the letters. We don't get many unsigned ones; but we get a few, and some of them are pertinent. — Editor.

Revival in Spain

Editor:
I just recently returned from Madrid, Spain, where I was with the Immanuel Baptist Church in revival. Dan White is the pastor of the English-speaking church that works with service people, students, English speaking employees and others who live in that great city of 3.5 million people.

I was able to visit with the Charles Whittens, John and Kathy McNair, George McNeely, Tom Law, and Errol Simmons, as well as do a little sight-seeing. The second week I was in a pastor/deacon retreat with the Immanuel Baptist Church, where we put in approximately nine hours of studying the 'Ministry of the Deacon.'

The church has adopted the 'Deacon Rotation Plan' and is contemplating the 'Deacon Family Ministry Plan.' There is a fast turnover of military personnel and American and British employees in Madrid, and it would be impossible for the pastor to minister to the many needs of the people.

After studying the 'Deacon Family Ministry Plan,' they felt this was the answer to their needs. They also felt

the 'Yokefellow Plan' of having an unordained or inactive deacon serve with an ordained deacon was an excellent idea since it would give them the opportunity to expand their manpower. There were several fine Mississippi families very active in the Immanuel Baptist Church in Madrid.
M. C. Johnson
Director of Missions
Holmes-Leflore Associations

Ministry At Annapolis

Editor:
On July 6 approximately 1,300 young men and women will start Plebe Summer at the U. S. Naval Academy. The members of Heritage Baptist Church (College Avenue Baptist Church until 1972) want to minister to all of them we can. It would mean a lot to us to learn the names and home addresses of those who are coming, in order that a written contact may be made with them before they arrive. And if it would be helpful, someone will be glad to meet an incoming Midshipman at the Washington or Baltimore airport and bring him or her to Annapolis — no strings attached!
If you, a friend or a relative will be coming to the Academy, please send me the needed information should you care to do so. Thank you.
Fred T. Moffatt, Jr., Pastor
Heritage Baptist Church
1740 Forest Drive
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Telephone 301/263-6680

I wish I knew the good of wishing. — Henry S. Leigh — Wishing
Music is the medicine of the breaking heart. — Alfred Hunt

May Be Hard To Find . . .

Where Are 500,000 Liberals?

As the time for the Southern Baptist Convention in Houston comes closer and thoughts begin to turn toward decisions to be made, there has come a suggestion that the body would be better off if upwards of 500,000 liberals would quietly leave the fellowship.

The suggestion comes from Harold Lindell, the editor emeritus of Christianity Today. The suggestion offers food for thought. If there are 500,000 liberals within the fellowship of the Southern Baptist Convention, they should find a fellowship more suited to their concepts. This immediately

raises several questions, however. One has to wonder who has counted the liberals. The number suggested by Dr. Lindell is a sizeable group. It would be an average of more than 14 per church all across the nation. It is also almost 4 per cent of the entire Southern Baptist body.

The next question is how can one tell who are the liberals. Surely there is no question but that their departure would be welcomed if we could determine who they are. This writer has been fairly well acquainted across these many years with hundreds of

Baptists. If any one of them fails to believe in the virgin birth of Christ, the complete inspiration of the Scripture, a literal hell, and the bodily return of Christ he has kept quiet about it. As far as is known they all even believe that Adam and Eve were one man and one woman.

But now here is the charge that some 500,000 Southern Baptists need to leave the ranks because they don't look upon these matters as most of the rest of us do. But who are they, where are they, and how was the number determined?

If there are those of a liberal persua-

sion in some of our churches, there is not much that can be done about it unless they decide to leave of their own volition. This, of course, is what Dr. Lindell is suggesting. If there are liberal teachers on the payrolls of Southern Baptist institutions, then they need to be able to find someplace else to serve. Before we can take action that would help them in this respect, however, we must know who they are.

At this point we can only point back to that big word, "if," and say there is no word of any sort from any source that would identify such teachers.

Guest Opinion . . .

Sharing Jesus With The Lonely

By Dennis Johnsey, Pastor
First, Summit

How do you share the love of Jesus with a lonely man? It is through people to people.

In November two residents of Summit, Miss., traveled to Hong Kong to

work with the Foreign Mission Board. They were Dr. Benton Hewitt, and I. Dr. Hewitt is a physician and I am pastor of First, Summit. For 13 days we worked with volunteers, local pastors, and missionaries in an intense evangelistic campaign.

The city of Hong Kong consists of 4.5 million people living in less than 400 square miles of mountains, valleys, congested city, and waterfront. Hong Kong is literally a tower of Babel, where 98% of the people are Chinese, and the remaining 2% speak languages of all the earth. Only a few of the Baptist congregations in Hong Kong are housed in separate church buildings. Most churches are located in highrise buildings surrounded by dwellings, commerce, and manufacturing. Many churches are in walking distance of 100,000 people.

The evangelistic campaign consisted of several phases. Dr. Hewitt and I were involved in two phases. November 2-5 a large crusade was set at the Boundary Street Football Field. A thousand-voice choir, personal testimonies, soloists and a preacher led in the services.

John Bisagno, pastor of FBC, Houston, Tex., did the preaching. To the surprise of the local pastors and some missionaries, thousands of people came to the stadium each night.

By the time November 5 arrived it was hard to believe the results of the

crusade. Over 2,200 people had made professions of faith. With little discussion the crusade was extended until November 8. Never in the history of Baptist work in Hong Kong had any program been extended with any success. By the end of that Wednesday evening 3,200 had come to know Jesus Christ as their Savior.

How exciting it was to see scores of people every night make decisions for Christ! To watch a pathologist who was a practicing Buddhist say yes to Jesus and then watch his teenage daughter do the same was a miracle indeed. During the crusade, Miss Hong Kong gave her Christian testimony twice. The second time she spoke her parents were present. During the invitation her father, who had had very little to do with his daughter's religion, came forward to accept Christ.

A tailor who had been fitting some men from South Carolina for suits came Monday night to check a measurement for one man's vest. At the insistence of the man the tailor stayed for the service. It was the first time the tailor had ever heard the Gospel of Christ proclaimed. When the invitation was given he was one of the first to come and accept Christ. These and many more like these are the fruits of that week's labor.

After the crusade Dr. Hewitt and I had several speaking engagements in Hong Kong. Dr. Hewitt was invited to

give his testimony at the Kowloon City Baptist Church. It is the largest Chinese Baptist Church in the world. He also preached at the Sai Kung Baptist Chapel for two services. Saturday as he preached to a crowd of 54 about the plan of salvation, ten people came forward to accept Jesus Christ. I spoke at the Baptist Seminary in Kowloon and preached at several of the churches in the area. Along with the speaking engagements we did a great deal of personal witnessing.

How do you share the love of Jesus with a lonely man? How do you tell a dying man of eternal life? How do you tell a loveless world that God himself is love? People who know God to people who need to know Jesus. Yes, people to people, all sharing together God's love.



John Bisagno and his interpreter.

The Baptist Record
(ISSN-0005-5778)
515 Mississippi Street
Jackson, Miss. 39201
Don McGregor Editor
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Official Journal of
The Mississippi Baptist Convention
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Earl Kelly Executive Secretary-Treasurer
The Baptist Building
Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205
Baptist Record Advisory Committee: Gary Hol-
land, Pascagoula; Odean Puckett, Natchez; Lewis
Sewell, Oxford; Claude Sutherland, Jackson; Be-
verly Timin, Meridian; Clarence Wilkinson, Clin-
ton.
Subscription \$2.75 a year payable in advance.
Published weekly except week of July 4 and
Christmas.
Second Class Postage paid at Jackson, Missis-
sippi.
The Baptist Record is a member of the Southern
Baptist Press Association.

SBC Programs Record Four Losses, One Gain

By Jim Lowry
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BR) — Four of the five Southern Baptist Convention church program organizations registered losses in this year's final SBC statistical report, with church music experiencing an enrollment gain for the 14th consecutive year.

Southern Baptists' church training program was estimated in the December statistical report for a 2 percent gain for the year, but the final report showed a loss of .1 percent, or 2,478 members, by far the smallest loss in 15 years.

A change in the reporting process on the annual church letter, which asked churches for the first time to include people in church training activities other than those in the Sunday night ongoing training groups, had a positive effect on the church training enrollment total.

Baptisms also dropped again this year, decreasing by 9,640 from 345,690 to 336,050, but membership rose .9 percent from 13,083,199 to 13,196,979 and SBC churches went up .4 percent from 35,255 to 35,404.

Total receipts of the Southern Baptist Convention increased by 10.5 percent last year to a total of nearly \$2 billion.

Church music, with an enrollment increase this year of 42,589, or 3.1 percent, also had a chance in guidelines on the annual church letter, which

specified the inclusion of certain general leaders for the first time. This resulted in a significant jump in general music leader enrollment for the year, and is included in the music enrollment total. Also, eight percent more churches, or 1,864, reported new church music programs this year over last.

Sunday School enrollment, down by almost 93,000 or 1.2 percent decreased for the second straight year, following five years of increases. Total Sunday

School enrollment now is 7,338,046.

Woman's Missionary Union enrollment decreased during the past year by 2.1 percent, or 23,119, to a total just under 1.1 million.

Brotherhood enrollment also experienced a loss this year, down 1.4 percent to 466,698, a loss of 6,611.

The annual statistical report is prepared by the research services department at the Sunday School Board, using information submitted by 34,989 reporting churches. Four hundred and fifteen churches did not report.

Summary of the 1978 SBC Statistics:

	1978	1977	Gain or loss	% Gain or Loss
Churches	35,404	35,255	149	0.4
Total Membership	13,196,979	13,083,199	113,780	0.9
Baptism	336,050	345,690	-9,640	-2.8
Sunday School				
Ongoing Enrollment	7,338,046	7,430,931	-92,885	-1.2
Church Training				
Ongoing Enrollment	1,775,701	1,778,179	-2,478	-0.1
Woman's Missionary Union, Ongoing Enrollment	1,094,966	1,118,085	-23,119	-2.1
Brotherhood				
Ongoing Enrollment	466,698	473,309	-6,611	-1.4
Church Music				
Ongoing Enrollment	1,424,693	1,382,104	42,589	3.1
Total Receipts	\$1,986,040,615	\$1,797,139,698	\$188,900,917	10.5
Total Mission Expenditures	\$316,919,377	\$289,372,474	\$27,546,903	9.5

Conner Will Build 14th Church In Amazon Basin In Brazil

Still another Baptist church will soon dot the landscape in Brazil, thanks to the efforts of Chuck Conner of Montgomery, Ala. Thus far, Conner has directed in the building of 13 churches there. Dickie Conner, his brother, vice-president of the Freedom Oil Company of Jackson, Miss., will go to Brazil in June with Chuck and 17 others, to build a church in the Manaus area.

Next November, Chuck Conner, Barry Schahn, and Tom Larrimore will go to Brazil as a preaching and singing team, to conduct revivals in Manaus, Belem, and Rio. Schahn, evangelist from West Palm Beach, Florida, will preach, and Tom Larrimore, music evangelist from Jackson, will lead the singing.

Last year on June 11 a new Baptist church was dedicated about 25 miles outside the city of Manaus. The church was built by members of Normandale Church, Montgomery, Ala., and Lakewood Church, Phenix City, Ala., under the sponsorship of Christian Missions Unlimited of which Conner is executive director.

Conner founded Christian Missions Unlimited in 1972. This organization raises money and supplies and organizes volunteer groups to build churches in the semi-civilized portions of the Amazon Basin. He directs his trips to the interior of Brazil from his farm in Hope Hull, Ala.

About \$5,000 worth of materials is required to build a church which will accommodate 300. The 13 churches he

has built are 1,000 miles apart. Each provides a chapel, dining hall, and study or day care center for the congregation and villages.

Conner, a native of Montgomery, attended Auburn University before graduating from Baylor University and Southwestern Seminary. He was associate pastor to Jess Moody at First Baptist Church of West Palm Beach, Fla. for four years, and pastor of First Church, Deerfield Beach, Fla. for six years.

The lay renewal strategy under the Home Mission Board grew out of a group called Laymen's Landing of which he was the pastor adviser. He has held revivals in several states and in Norway, Sweden, Guatemala, and Brazil.

First Appointment Service Held In Kansas-Missouri

By Mary Jane Welch
KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP) — A standing ovation greeted Baker J. Cauthen when he was introduced as "Mr. Foreign Missions" to the crowd of about 7,500 at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's Bold Mission appointment service here.

Responding to an invitation at the end of the service from Cauthen, who will retire as the board's executive director at the end of the year, 228 persons came forward to commit their lives to special Christian service. They came after hearing 20 new missionaries, such as a former Air Force captain, housewives and a librarian, give testimonies of their call to career missions.

The new missionaries, the first appointed in the Kansas-Missouri area, were challenged by both Cauthen and John R. Bisagno, pastor of First Baptist Church, Houston, Texas.

Twenty persons already in contact with the board about fulltime mission work and five persons interested in

Mission Service Corps also came forward.

Three of the couples appointed have connections in the host conventions. Mrs. Wilburn R. (Bill) Stancil and Mrs. Keith H. Williams both have parents in the Kansas City area. Mrs. Stancil and her husband, a Tennessee native, will go to Argentina. Mrs. Williams and her husband, a Missouri native, will work in the Philippines. Mr. and Mrs. Roy A. Deterding of Nebraska will serve in Venezuela.

Others named as new missionaries were Mr. and Mrs. Stephen E. Baillio of Louisiana, assigned to Honduras; Mr. and Mrs. A. David Brown, Louisiana, to Ivory Coast; Mr. and Mrs. Jerry W. Cole, Alabama, to Taiwan; and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest G. McAninch, Georgia and Illinois respectively, to El Salvador.

Also appointed were J. Lawrence Rymal, Texas, to Ghana; Donna Styers, Tennessee, to Chile; Mr. and Mrs. Rafael A. Venegas, Puerto Rico and Alabama, to Mexico; Cynthia

Weaver, Tennessee, to Taiwan; and Janet Wilburn, Oklahoma, to Argentina.

Men's Softball Tourney Will Take New Format

"Recreation in Mississippi's Baptist churches is alive and well," states Tom Prather, minister of activities, Woodland Hills, Jackson. "Participation and enthusiasm have rapidly increased during the past several years."

One area of statewide importance is the annual Mississippi Baptist State Slowpitch Softball Tournament. In the past the tourney has been played on successive weekends in Jackson. However, this year, due to the growth of the number of teams and a desire to involve more churches, the tournament has been changed to include eight regional tournaments and then the state play-off.

Each church must participate in its respective regional tournament the weekend of Aug. 17-18, Prather said. The top three teams will advance to the state play-offs in Jackson, Aug. 24-25.

A committee of recreation and activity directors from across the state met in Jackson to plan and formulate this new procedure. The regional tournament directors will be:

Region 1 — Johnny Flynt — North Oxford Baptist Church — the regional to be played in Oxford.

Region 2 — Paul Lee — Calvary Baptist Church — The regional to be played in Tupelo.

Region 3 — David Rogers — First Baptist Church — The regional to be played in Greenville.

Region 4 — Harold Hinchey and Sandy Sanders — Fairview Baptist Church — The regional to be played in Columbus.

Region 5 — Tom Prather — Woodland Hills Baptist Church, Jehu Brabham, Parkway Baptist Church — The regional to be played in Jackson.

Region 6 — David Ingram — Highland Baptist Church — The regional to

be played in Meridian.

Region 7 — Clayton Jordan — First Baptist Church — The regional to be played to Brookhaven.

Region 8 — To be determined.

Churches will be placed in regions and grouped accordingly, by associations. Prather said, "This method will help involve more churches in the regional tournaments and also cut traveling expenses for those who have been driving to Jackson for two weekends."

Regional groupings will be mailed in June, followed by entry forms July 1. The entry deadline is August 1. Anyone who wishes more information may call Tom Prather, Woodland Hills Baptist Church, Jackson (981-1443).

Thursday, June 7, 1979

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Conventions Spotlight

(Continued from Page 1)

the big problem is in terms of our willingness to give the time and the compassionate, caring concern necessary to show people that we really care for them," he says. "The most meaningful kind of evangelism today is evangelism through what someone has called the caring community. My concern is not just for others, but for myself, that I'll be willing to give the time it takes to demonstrate this kind of compassion and concern."

Routh has several concerns from the perspective of a second generation Baptist leader, among them the drop in baptisms, the slowing growth rate and the growing percentage of non-resident membership, what he calls a good Baptist term for the non-involved.

"Someone jokingly made the observation several years ago, when our growth rate was higher, that before long there would be more Southern Baptists than there were people," Routh says. Now, he says, that's no longer true. "We need to find new, innovative ways of discovering through self giving, how to reflect the spirit of Christ in our lives."

Routh has not just seen Southern Baptists grow up, he has been in position during the boom years to help facilitate that growth. When he became executive secretary in 1951, Southern Baptists had 7.3 million members in 28,289 churches who gave \$37.2 million to missions.

Today there are 13.1 million members in 35,400 churches in all 50 states. Last year they gave \$105.3 million to world missions.

Routh and his wife, Ruth, have scheduled teaching seminars at four Southern Baptist seminaries in the next two years. He will teach courses in denominational heritage, administration, and crises and controversy.

Routh, a man not given to self-acclaim, comes by his humility honestly. He remembers that as a child attending the Baptist General Convention of Texas annual meetings with his father, E. C. Routh, editor of the Texas Baptist Standard, people would argue about who was the ugliest preacher in the state, E. C. Routh, or preacher T. V. Neal.

The dubious title probably never was resolved, but it sure made Routh wonder when folks would pat him on the head and say, "Yup, you look just like your father."

He credits his wife and children with helping make his work and frequent separations easier. Where some marriages disintegrate because of the demands of denominational work, the Rouths celebrate their 43rd wedding anniversary June 7.

Let's see, that means they were married the year the convention was in St. Louis . . . (Jameson is BP feature editor.)

Southwestern Employs Clendinning

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Adoption of an \$8.4 million budget, faculty additions and promotions, degree program changes, and dedication of the new Recreation/Aerobics Center highlighted the spring meeting of the board of trustees at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The budget, a \$1 million increase over the 1978-79 budget, will meet inflationary demands, cover costs of the new recreation center, and provide for faculty and administrative salary increases approved by the board at the meeting, a board spokesman said.

Byron A. (Pat) Clendinning Jr. was approved as associate professor of psychology and counseling effective in the summer of 1979. He serves as minister of counseling for the Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta, Ga.

Robert Wayne Brackney will become assistant professor of social work Aug. 1, 1979. He is professor of social work and human services at Wingate College, Wingate, N. C., and will receive his doctor of education degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in June.

George H. Gaston III will become assistant professor of pastoral ministry, June 1, 1979. He is a graduate of Baylor University and Southwestern Seminary and has served as pastor of the Parkview Baptist Church of Monroe, La., since 1974.

William Mac Davis, a graduate student at the University of Utah, will become an instructor in music theory and composition effective Aug. 1, 1979. He will receive his doctorate in August, 1979.

Three new master's degree programs were adopted by the trustees. The degrees will provide inter-relating programs among the seminary's three schools.

They include a master of divinity with church music minor; master of religious education with church music minor; and master of church music with religious education minor.

Trustees also voted to establish a doctor of education center at the Baptist Sunday School Board headquarters in Nashville, Tenn., which will offer doctoral seminars in conjunction with a board staff development program.

Persons participating in the program will be approved Sunday School Board personnel and will meet all requirements for the EdD.

An increase in the student matriculation fee was approved beginning with the fall, 1979, semester. An increase of \$15 to \$165 per semester was approved, with the fee to increase to \$175 for the fall, 1980, semester.

The increase is in accordance with a move to establish a uniform matriculation fee at all six Southern Baptist seminaries, according to Southwestern officials.

Matriculation fees for students enrolled in the Houston and San Antonio off-campus centers will be \$200 beginning with the fall, 1979, semester. Students in the Shawnee, Okla., center will have an increase to \$165 per semester with the remaining \$35 paid by the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

In adopting the 1979-80 budget, trustees approved salary increases for all faculty and administrative personnel.

Faculty members will receive a 7 percent increase in addition to achievement increases and a "fast

track" increase approved by the board.

The "career fast track" system was designed for the seminary by Executive Vice President Lloyd Elder and will provide Southwestern with a compensation pattern comparable to personnel within corporate or other business organizations.

The plan provides pay increases early in the career so raises can be enjoyed over a longer period of time, Elder said.

Administrative personnel will not be affected by the "fast track" system. Salary increases for administrative staff will average 7 to 9 percent.

Trustees participated in dedication ceremonies Monday, March 19 for the seminary's new \$2 million Recreation/Aerobics Center.

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Life's Extraordinary Things

By Evie Landrum Goodrich

I read the following statements recently, which pointed out some extra things of life:

1. The realization of God's love for us.
2. The many spiritual blessings which we enjoy.
3. The joy we have when we work for the glory of God.
4. The quiet time we can have with God, thanking Him for his goodness and mercy and asking forgiveness of sins.

There are many extraordinary things around us that we can enjoy, but we seem to take no thought of how they happened to be here, or why they exist.

Many afternoons from my west window I can see indescribably beautiful sunsets, and as I look I think of our Creator and that the heavens declare the glory of God. If the outside of heaven is so magnificent, I wonder what the inside is like.

After attending a convention in St. Petersburg, Fla., I went with a group of people to see Bok's Singing Tower. Before we reached the tower we could hear the chimes playing. "Holy, Holy, Holy."

We were overcome with the loveliness of the place, but were surprised when we saw two hurried tourists and heard one say, "I don't see anything beautiful about this. Let's go."

I noticed a plaque on the wall near the tower, and on it these words, a quotation from John Burroughs: "I come here to find myself. It is so easy to get lost in the world."

When we see the great mountains, the oceans, and the caverns we surely will sing, "How Great Thou Art!"

We can begin where we are and see the beauty of God's handiwork. That will many times keep us from being upset and disturbed.

Paul said, "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, think on these things" (Philippians 4:8).

Women's Seminar . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Five minutes minimum on each topic would fill the prayer hour. Included are praise, read the Word till God speaks to you, meditation, confession, intercession, listening, praying the Word (biblical prayers such as 'restore unto me the joy of my salvation', petition for such people as missionaries and world leaders, pray for the pastor, the church, giving thanks, and spending a time singing praises.

Mrs. Taylor strongly suggested a family worship time daily. The break-fast table may be the most convenient time. "I believe we are going to have to put a priority on praying together," said Mrs. Taylor. "If you have to have two family worships, have two."

Satan takes no Sabbath — he takes no rest and gives none. — Thomas Guthrie

Wisdom is only found in truth — Goethe

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Are you the beloved child of God, cleansed of every shame?
Then when you walk among Earth's people, do you live up to his name?

—Violet Tackett

As for me, all I know is that I know nothing. — Socrates

Better an ugly face than an ugly mind. — James Ellis

Man is the only animal that blushes. Or needs to. — S. L. Clemens (Mark Twain)

As you cannot do what you wish, you should wish what you can do. — Terence

Peaks To Pebbles

A boulder on a mountain high
From tallest peak, I pierced the sky
Above the clouds that darkened the vale
For I, the lesser mountains paled.

And then there came a mighty quake
So strong it caused the mount to shake
That burst asunder all my base
And I was flung from lofty space.

As down its rugged side I went
Until the tremor's fury spent.
I lay, a broken slab of rock
For all the lesser crags to mock.

The mighty boulder, humbled, torn
That once the crown of peaks had worn,
Now I fell beside a river's edge
And for a while I was a ledge.

And then the flooding rivers rose
My moorings loosed, came added woes
I knew not where the end would be
For bit by bit crags lessened me.

At last, when seemed eons of time
I rested in a bed of slime
For days and days bemoaned my fate
A small round stone to lie and wait.

Degraded, humbled and undone
I saw a glistening in the sun
Of shields; and then a rushing sound
Of soldiers marching all around.

And then I felt a strong young hand
Reach in among the slime and sand
And I, a seeming worthless thing
Was firmly placed within a sling.

—Valerie Boyd Howell
(1 Samuel 17:49)

To A Flood Victim

The burdens of this life hang heavy on my soul;
To have them lifted is my heartfelt goal.
Altho' this trouble has come upon me now
I know in my heart God will uphold me somehow.

When pressures seem to converge on every side,
I know that it is in Him I must abide.
When storm clouds hover over me,
He comes again to set me free.

When the day seems to have no light or promise
And trials seem to be heaped upon us;
It is time to turn and look into His face
And partake of His love and endless grace.

When His peace fills me and calms my soul,
After the floods have taken their toll,
I say "Thank you, Father, for now I see
That through it all you drew me closer to Thee."

—Betty Artell

Just For The Record

Hollandale Church honored its pastor, Charles Belt, with Pastor Appreciation Day, May 20, to mark his second anniversary there. A resolution and love gifts were presented, and a reception held on Sunday evening.

Perry Clayton, former pastor of First, Greenville, now retired, delivered the Sunday evening sermon, on the text, Job 2:1-3. He portrayed the pastor as God's servant, yet also as a fellow Christian, with the same needs of those he is to serve. Beverly Alexander presented special music.

A resolution was read, proclaiming the church's love and appreciation for the pastor and his family; a love gift was offered, in the form of a check.

Since Belt moved to Hollandale from Woodville two years ago, there has been an increase in worship attendance at Hollandale, and also in baptisms and giving. Another full-time staff member has been added, and a new ministry begun for senior adults. To Belt's family, a third son has been added.

Choirs at First Pontotoc, under leadership of James C. Hess, minister of music, have recently presented several special programs. On Sunday and Monday evenings, April 15 and 16, the Youth Choir presented, "Celebrate Life" by Buryl Red and Ragan Courtney. Portrayal of Matthew Mark, Luke, and John was done by Mac Huddleston, Bobby Davis, Terry Maxey, and Jimmy Wise.

On Wednesday evening, May 9, the graded choirs presented a program during the prayer service. Directors of these choirs are: Preschool Choir (Ages 4-5), Mrs. Drew Waldrop; Music Makers Choir (ages 6-8), Mrs. Jerry Brown; Young Musicians Choir (ages 9-11), Mrs. Terry Maxey. Attendance awards were presented to choir members, which included gifts of ten New Baptist Hymnals for perfect attendance.

The Adult Choir and the Young Musicians Choir presented "Alive Again" by Ron and Patricia Owens on Sunday evening, May 20. Narration for

this was done by Gordon H. Sansing, pastor.

Staff Changes



Rev. and Mrs. Lester Moon

Lester Moon has accepted the call of the Ruleville Church to become associate pastor. His primary work will be visitation and outreach ministry. He and Mrs. Moon for the past 31 years have served churches in Leflore and Sunflower Counties. A. M. "Sonny" Moore is pastor.

Jerry Todd, a native of Waco, Tex., is the new minister of music and youth at New Hope Church, Marion County. Todd recently graduated from William Carey College with a major in church music. Before coming to New Hope he was minister of music of Olive Church of Lumberton. His wife, Susan, is a native of Florida. The Todds have two girls, Jamie Lou, 9, and Portia Diane, 4. The Todds were welcomed to New Hope on their first Sunday, May 13, with a reception. Billy R. Williams is pastor.

Bert Harper has accepted a call to West Jackson Street Church, Tupelo, as minister of youth and activities. He goes there from Shiloh Church, Corinth where he was pastor. He attended Northeast Mississippi Junior College, Mississippi State, and Blue Mountain, and has a B.A. major in Biblical studies.

While pastor of Clarke Street Mission, New Albany, he was also associate pastor of First, New Albany, and was involved in the church's radio and television programs, including daily programs on cable TV. He is married to the former Jan McBrayer of Baldwin, a Blue Mountain graduate, and they have a son, Nathan, 2. Richard Clement is pastor of West Jackson Street.

Revival Results

Campbell's Creek Church (Simpson): May 13-18; Zack Winningham of Center Terrace, Canton, conducting the services; Greg Winningham, pastor; 10 Professions of faith; two by letter.

Ohio Church Dedicates Sanctuary

The new sanctuary and basement of Eastview Baptist Church in Hunter, Ohio were dedicated Sunday, May 20. The pastor is Carroll Starkey, native of Jackson, Miss. Darty F. Stowe gave the message of dedication.

The church was started in March, 1960, as a mission chapel of Calvary Baptist Church of Middletown, Ohio. Worship services were first held in a rented house. Financial loans from the Home Mission Board enabled the church to buy a lot, erect a building, and call a mission pastor, Carroll Starkey, from a church in Georgia. He has been pastor since September, 1960.

On Feb. 5, 1961, Eastview Church was constituted with 18 members. Membership now totals 143 and Sunday School enrollment is 102. The church is affiliated with the SBC, the Miami Valley Association of Baptists, and the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio.

Starkey also teaches in Middletown. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and Southern Seminary and has done additional work at Miami University. He and his wife Kikie have five children.

Military Day Draws Veterans From 5 States

Military personnel were honored at Bethlehem (Jones) on May 27. They came from New Jersey, Texas, Alabama, Georgia, and various points of Mississippi. Some had served in World War I, some in World War II, some in the Korean War, some in Viet Nam, and others had served their country in different phases of the armed services.

One family had three generations of service persons present, the Herman Flowers family: Herman, who had served during World War I; Arnold, a son, who served during World War II; and Terry, a grandson who served in Viet Nam.

All service men and women were honored. A memorial service in memory of deceased service persons was held.

An "Old Fashioned Dinner on the Ground" was served in the Fellowship Hall.

One veteran said, "I've never seen anything like this in my life. Let's make it an annual event."

Harris Steps Down At Mercer

MACON, Ga. (BP) — Rufus C. Harris, 82-year-old "dean of college presidents in the United States," will step down as president of Mercer University and become the Baptist university's first chancellor when a new president is elected.

Harris came to Mercer in 1960 from Tulane University, where he had been president since 1937. Before that, the Monroe, Ga., native served as dean of the Mercer Law School, 1923-27, and dean of the Tulane University Law School, 1927-37.

The trustees voted to create the position of chancellor after accepting his resignation as president.

During the tense days of the civil rights movement, Mercer, led by Harris, voted in April, 1963, to admit all qualified students without regard to race before all colleges were required to do so by the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

The Harris years saw Mercer enrollment grow from around 1,000 on one campus to about 3,800 on four campuses in Macon and Atlanta, endowment increase from \$5.3 million to \$16.5 million and budget grow from \$1.2 million to \$21.3 million, and the school merge with Atlanta Baptist College forming Mercer University in Atlanta and head toward acquisition of a medical school.

Revival Dates

Montpelier (Clay): June 10-15; Wilburn Matthews of Starkville, evangelist; Michael Clift of Pheba, song leader; Frank Childress, pastor; services nightly at 7:30; homecoming day on Sunday, June 10, with lunch at the church and Jasper Rish of Houston as the morning speaker.

Johns Church: June 10-15; Gary Black, pastor of Lake Shore Church, Memphis, Tenn., evangelist; Mr. and Mrs. George Dukes, Jr., in charge of music; W. J. Murray, pastor; services Sunday at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. at 7:45 p.m.; lunch to be served at the church on Sunday.

Trinity, Petal: June 3-8; Colbert and Joyce Craft, of Jasper, Fla., evangelists; Don Strickland, pastor; dinner on the ground and afternoon services were held Sunday.

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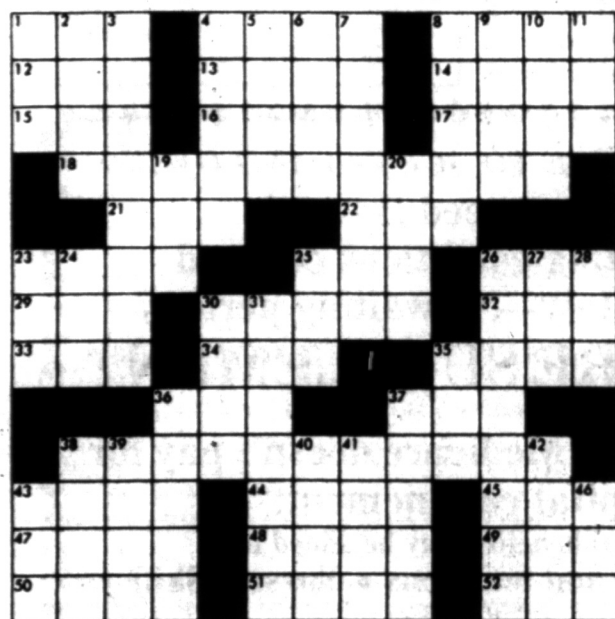
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DOWN

- 1 Abner's father (7 Sam. 14:51)
- 2 House adjuncts
- 3 "ex knoweth —" (Isa. 1)
- 4 "they — the praise" (John 12)
- 5 Before lasting or more
- 6 Verses: abbr.
- 7 "that are —" (Heb. 13)
- 8 "let us not —" (1 Thess. 5)
- 9 Orient
- 10 O. T. book
- 11 Summer cooler
- 12 Droll fellow
- 13 "for — is the gate" (Matt. 7)
- 14 Trees are full of it (Psa. 104:16)
- 15 Marsh elder
- 16 Before cry or crop
- 17 "hair of —" (Rom. 4)
- 18 City (Josh. 15:32)
- 19 Cat, for one
- 20 "she took —" (2 Sam. 13)
- 21 "Bear ye one another's —" (Gal. 6)
- 22 Good's opposite
- 23 Officer of the court
- 24 Composition of David
- 25 Dirt
- 26 Seine tributary
- 27 Article of dress
- 28 Man (2 Chron. 18:7)
- 29 Grimace
- 30 Accountant: abbr.
- 31 Temporary duty

ACROSS

- 1 O. T. book: abbr.
- 4 He received tithes (Heb. 7:9)
- 6 Antiochians
- 12 Samuel's mentor (1 Sam. 2:11)
- 13 Stove part
- 14 Praise
- 15 Release: abbr.
- 16 Speech part
- 17 Old Italian house
- 18 "The — the word" (Mark 4)
- 21 Large amount of money
- 22 — and tack
- 23 "and — unto thy name" (Rom. 15)
- 25 Ball, of a sort
- 26 Designate
- 29 Greeting
- 30 "I — not my power" (1 Cor. 9)
- 32 Hasten
- 33 Less than bogey
- 34 A helper (Nab. 3:9)
- 35 "to backsliding" (Hos. 11)
- 36 Container
- 37 Cat's —
- 38 "keep —" (Prov. 3)
- 43 "the silver — be loosed" (Eccl. 12)
- 44 Girl's name
- 45 Dry or black
- 47 Half of a game
- 48 Awl in England
- 49 Place (Ezek. 27:10)
- 50 Sheltered

CRYPTOVERSE

E Z R L S N X S F A Z H Q Y L K E E P U F F E

Today's Cryptoverse Clue: Z equals E

(Answers on page 7)

Names In The News . . .



TWO GROUPS FROM ECU CHURCH participated in the State Bible drills at Calvary, Tupelo, sponsored by the Church Training Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Youth Bible Drill participants from ECU were named State Winners Superior. Pictured left to right they are ANN WILLIS, a three-year participant; LISA BROWNING, who received a four-year trophy; JANE FOSTER, who received a five-year trophy; and DANNY McGEE, who received a four-year trophy. Their leaders were Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Pitts. Children's Bible Drill participants from ECU who were state winners were JEANNIE SPECK, EDDIE MOUNCE, and TURNER WILLIS. Their leader was KATHERINE GRADY.

W. Starr Miller, dean of school of education at Georgia Southern College in Statesboro, was elected president of Breton-Parker College by the board of trustees. Miller will succeed J. Theodore Phillips, who will retire at the end of the school year, June 30, after serving 22 years at the Baptist school. Miller has been at Georgia Southern College since 1961, previously serving as dean and professor at Tift College, 1951-61.

Malcolm O. Tolbert has been elected Professor of New Testament at Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C. according to an announcement by President W. Randall Lolley. Tolbert, pastor of First Baptist Church in Gainesville, Ga. since 1977, will begin his teaching duties at the seminary in the fall semester 1979. Tolbert, a native of Baton Rouge, La., taught New Testament and Greek at New Orleans seminary from 1961-77 before assuming his present pastorate.



James House, right, was licensed to the gospel ministry by Bethel Church near Houston on May 27. Pastor David Norris, left, presented a certificate of license. Previously House has served as a lay preacher. He is available for supply work or for a bi-vocational pastorate. He may be contacted at his home in Houston, Miss.



Thad and Lynne Pritchard, members of Second Church, Indianola (Doyle Cummings, pastor), are entering full-time music evangelism, including revivals, concerts, and retreats. Both have served in churches as music and youth directors, she at First, Isola, and he at Calvary, Belzoni; Immanuel, Hattiesburg; and First, Inverness. Both are graduates of Mississippi Delta Junior College and he is a graduate of William Carey. For three years he directed the BSU singing group at MDJC, "The New Jerusalem Railroad," in which she was a soloist. The Pritchards may be contacted through Second Baptist Church, Indianola, MS 38751.

Harry Bonner, executive director of the Northwest Baptist Convention Foundation, has been elected president of the Association of Baptist Foundation Executives. Other officers are vice president, Lynn Craft, executive director of the Texas Baptist Foundation; and secretary-treasurer, William Kersch, executive director, Oklahoma Baptist Convention Foundation.

Amory, First Church had 12 church winners, ten of whom were association winners, and these ten went on to become state winners in the Children's Bible Drill. This group was the largest from one church to be state winners. It was the first time in six years the church has had anyone to participate in the drill. The ten state winners were Lori Lewellen, Jane Lewis, Melodi Futral, Nancy Greenhaw, Alysia Wright, Matt Boyd, Mylan Johnson, Robert Pickle, Noel English, and Teresa Acree; Jim Futral is pastor and Bible Drill director is Mrs. Roger S. Dorsett.

During the four months of intensive Bible study in preparation for the drill four of the children made professions of faith and were baptized. The ten children participating in the State Finals Drill had 30 "boosters" (family and friends) from the church there with them. The church also had one young woman to participate in the Better Speakers Tournament. Vicki Anderson scored a "Superior" on her topic, "I'm Not Just Ordinary," and was a finalist in the Speakers Tournament at Gulfshore.

Cross Roads Church of Pelahatchie has two state Bible Drill winners in the fourth through sixth grade Bible Drill. They are Tracy Beavers and Travis Gray. Their church leaders were Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Moore. Church Training director is Ray Klakunde. Victor L. Bowman is the pastor.

Mount Olive Church, Carroll County, had three girls to participate and win in the State Bible Drill held recently in Winona. The girls participating were Sherry Lollar, Stephanie Daves, and Sheila Myers.

Wilbur Lamm, editor of adult Convention Uniform materials in the Baptist Sunday School Board's Sunday School department, has been elected chairman of the Committee on the Uniform Series. The committee, made up of representatives from 24 denominations, meets annually to develop frameworks for the International Sunday School Lessons. From those frameworks, Southern Baptist editors of Convention Uniform Materials evaluate and revise the outlines for denominational use. Lamm is only the third Southern Baptist elected chairman since the committee was formed in 1872. The other two were the late president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, John R. Sampey, 1915-42, and retired Sunday School Board staffer, Clifton J. Allen, 1963-68, both of whom served before the current limitation to three years of service. Lamm's three-year term will begin in 1980. Lamm has served as an editor at the Sunday School Board and as a committee member since 1955.



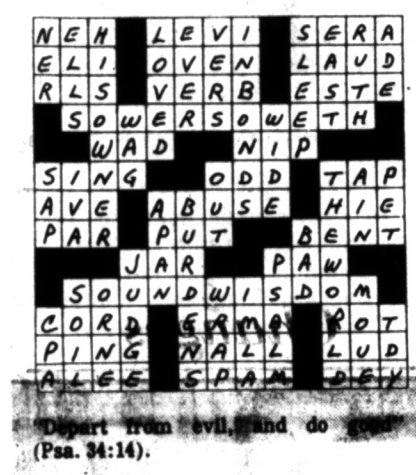
Mississippian 40th President Of Metochai

METOCHAI, the organization for wives of students at Southwestern Seminary, recently celebrated the fortieth anniversary of its founding in 1939.

Pictured left to right are: Mrs. Gene P. (Marsha) Smith, formerly of New Albany, Miss., who has served as the fortieth president of Metochai. (She is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. T. Beavers of New Albany); Mrs. C. Murray (Willene) Fuquay of Midwest City, Okla., who was the founder and first president of Metochai; Mrs. Russell H. (Betty) Dilday of Fort Worth, who is the sponsor of Metochai and the wife of the president of Southwestern Seminary.

Do not love life? Then do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of. — Franklin — Poor Richard

BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS



Thursday, June 7, 1979

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7

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THE VILLAGE VIEW

FROM Baptist Children's Village P. O. Box 11308 Jackson, MS 39213

Mother's Day Reminder:

We respectfully ask Pastors, Treasurers, and other local church leaders with responsibilities for disbursing funds, to check on the status of the church's 1979 Mother's Day giving to The Children's Village. As the information we released prior to Christian Home Week indicated, the Mother's Day offering is the most important appeal of the entire year to our children — absolutely vital to our basic, minimum, operating needs — the only appeal for cash gifts addressed to churches as organized groups during the entire year. We realize how

easy it is to defer and even overlook important, and even favored appeals, such as the one we make for our boys and girls each May, especially amid other challenges and emphases currently being met by Mississippi Baptists. Thus, on behalf of the hundreds of boys and girls who need our love and understanding and who depend upon Mississippi Baptist churches and Christian friends who belong to those churches for everything they have: If your church has not sent a Mother's Day offering this year — won't you do it today?

Woodland Boy's Ranch Project:

The Baptist Children's Village has been favored and honored in being selected by Mr. Hayes Branscome, Christian rancher and businessman of Grenada, as a participant, during the summer of 1979, in his initial effort to establish a ranch-type facility for the "training and encouragement of minds and morals in young boys and the providing of an atmosphere for strengthening of character and motivation."

The 1979 project, which has evolved from discussions extended over a period of three months among Mr. Branscome, Paul N. Nunnery and Henry M. Glaze of The Village staff, selected group of Grenada clergy, professional and businessmen who advised Mr. Branscome, is envisioned as a "pilot project," and as the beginning of the realization of what Mr. Branscome has described as his long-time dream. Four boys from the Jackson Campus of The Children's Village, carefully screened and selected according to the age, size, emotional needs and vocational interests, under the supervision of an adult, male counselor from The Village staff, particularly employed for this assignment, will take up residence on the beautiful Branscome Ranch in Grenada County from July 7 to August 11. A bunk-house for the boys and their counselor has been reconstructed and furnished on the properties. During working hours, the boys will perform routine ranching chores and maintenance duties under the supervision of Mr. Branscome's ranch foreman. Meals will be prepared and served in the bunk-house and The Village counselor who lives

with the boys will be responsible for off-duty supervision, moral and spiritual counseling and training in cooperation with Mr. Branscome and his Grenada committee in a detailed and structured program, designed to "introduce the boys to other trades and vocations and to the business world, during evening hours, on weekends and at other times when ranch work is not in progress.

The Children's Village regards Woodland Boy's Ranch as an unparalleled opportunity for the four boys who have been selected for this pilot project, and is grateful to Mr. Branscome and those who work with him for affording The Children's Village the honor and opportunity of initiating this exciting plan.



Presenting Our Staff

Nannie K. Witcher, left, has been a housemother on the Jackson Campus since Aug. 28, 1978.

Mrs. Oneida Smith, right, has been a housemother on the Jackson Campus since Oct. 1, 1972.

New Faces on the Jackson Campus:

Paul N. Nunnery, Executive Director of The Baptist Children's Village has announced the appointment of Judy (Mrs. Scott) Ratcliff, and Mr. and Mrs. Robbie N. Watson (Doris and Robbie) to positions of staff responsibility on The Village's Jackson Campus. Mrs. Ratcliff has been employed as a social caseworker, with Mr. and Mrs. Watson being assigned as houseparents. Mr. Watson will also perform duties on the Jackson Campus in the Department of Activities and Buildings and Grounds.

According to Mrs. Claire Nowlin, who, in her capacity as Director of Social Service supervises The Village's social caseworkers, Mrs. Ratcliff, a native of Brookhaven, is a graduate of Whitworth College with a B.S.E. degree, and she has completed a substantial amount of the academic requirements for the Master's Degree from Mississippi State University. She has taught in the public schools of Lincoln and Rankin Counties, and has served as a Kindergarten teacher at Alta Woods Baptist Church in Jackson, the church of her membership.

Mr. and Mrs. Ratcliff are the parents of an infant daughter, Rachel. Mr. Ratcliff is Director of Social Service at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center. As a social caseworker on the Jackson Campus, Mrs. Ratcliff will be assigned a group of Village children and their families for counseling and guidance in all areas of natural family concerns, particularly social and emotional facets. Under the supervision of the Director of Social Service, Mrs. Ratcliff will also assist other Village caseworkers in the maintenance of The Village's system of foster homes, and she will conduct case work studies involved in the admission of children to Village custody, the release of children from Village custody and the transfer of children from the Jackson Campus to other Village facilities.

In announcing the appointment of Doris and Robbie Watson to the houseparent staff on the Jackson Campus, Henry M. Glaze, Jr., Village Home Life Director in Jackson stated that the couple, natives of Tennessee, have temporarily been assigned to Memorial Cottage on the Jackson Campus for a period of in-service training as houseparents before receiving their permanent cottage assignment, and that Mr. Watson, during the same period of time will be assisting in several areas of campus-wide duty, including the activities program, transportation and maintenance and buildings and grounds, also before being assigned to his permanent duties. Glaze explained that all housefathers at The

Village carry work responsibilities outside cottage life, in addition to association with their wives as cottage parents. Mr. and Mrs. Watson came to The Village from Hattiesburg, where they were members of First Baptist Church, and where Mr. Watson recently graduated from William Carey College, earning the B.A. degree. Mrs. Watson attended Jackson State College in Jackson, Tennessee. The Children's Village continues to seek Christian adults who are willing to move to Village campus-life and invest themselves in a mission ministry to neglected and dependent children and their troubled families. Mr. Glaze has stated that the principal personnel need of The Children's Village is in the houseparent field, that both single ladies and husband/wife teams, preferably between the ages of 30 and 55 years are being considered. Interested persons are urged to write to The Baptist Children's Village at Box 11308, Jackson, 39213, or telephone Village offices in Jackson at 922-2242 for further details.

Dan Watson, a Junior at Mississippi State University has been assigned by The BSU as a student, summer missionary, and has reported for duty to Mrs. Annette Hitt, Christian Education Director. During the summer of 1979, Dan will be living on The Village's Jackson Campus, and working with Jackson Campus children, in cooperation with Mrs. Hitt and Coach John L. Self, our Director of Activities. His primary responsibilities will consist of Bible study and spiritual emphasis leadership, in cooperation with Mrs. Hitt, along with church-related activities, and assistance of Coach Self in recreational activities. Barbara Smith of Greenville, a recent graduate of Mississippi College, who served as a BSU student missionary on The Village's Farrow Manor Campus during the summer of 1978 has recently moved to the Jackson Campus, where she has accepted employment for the summer of 1979 in the same general areas. Barbara's popularity with Village young people and her genuine interest in Christian child care, both generated by her student missionary experience with us has made her return for 1979 summer duty on both the Jackson and Farrow Manor Campus a happy occasion for all of us. The Children's Village appreciates the opportunity afforded our agency, beginning in 1978, to be included in the student summer missionary program. The superior young people who have served with us have contributed in material degree to our efforts in child care, and we gratefully welcome both Dan and Barbara.



Summer is here! Swimming — a popular Village activity.

Summer Holiday Dates

For many years, The Baptist Children's Village has, with the cooperation of approved private homes in Mississippi, allowed its children to visit, out of campus life, in private homes about the state for a period of approximately 15 days. In some instances, Village children visit, for this "holiday," with approved members of natural families — in other instances they visit with friends which are approved by local churches. Village staff has found these visits to be helpful to our children in the important matter of retaining identity with the public community and with real private homes, and learning to be good guests. Many Mississippi homes and families enjoy participation in this program, and appreciate being reminded, in advance, of dates fixed for the holidays.

Involving, as it does, the plans of so many Village children and so many off-campus homes, The Village's Social Service staff, which manages all visiting by Village children, is obliged to commence its holiday planning at an early date.

Mrs. Claire Nowlin, Director of Social Service, has announced that summer holiday dates for children on the Jackson and Farrow Manor Campuses will begin at 9 a.m. on Friday, July 27 and will end at 5 p.m. on Sunday, August 12. Interested persons are urged to contact Mrs. Nowlin at telephone number 922-2242 in Jackson or by writing to her at Box 11308, Jackson, 39213. Children living in our New Albany home will observe a different and more complicated schedule which has already been fixed by private arrangements with their hosts.

Farrow Manor Campus News:

With the conclusion of the current public school term, Village young people on our "county-life" campus near Independence have become busily involved in their summer activities. Boys and girls are participating in soft ball, buddy league and little league baseball programs in Polkville and other communities near the Farrow Manor Campus area; grounds maintenance, gardening and cattle and pork projects take on new emphasis as work-therapy projects for the summer, keeping heads and hands profitably occupied until the beginning of the next school term in late August.

During June, a group of Village children from the Farrow Manor Campus, accompanied by "Cotton" Foster, Home Life Director, and Mrs. Linda Foster will join off-campus friends and

fellow members of Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Independence for a week of spiritual emphasis at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly near Pass Christian. Mt. Zion Baptist Church serves as host church for Kelly and Reedy Cottages on the Farrow Manor Campus.

Camping opportunities for the summer, already scheduled, include a group of 16 who will attend Camp Lakeside near Webb as guests of Tallahatchie Association and other Tallahatchie friends and campus boys who will attend an R.A. Camp at Wall Doxey State Park with the possibility of another such camp scheduled for Central Hills Assembly near Kosciusko. Meanwhile, campus children are enjoying participating in a number of fishing rodeos scheduled by Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

Mexican Invites U. S. Baptists To Hold '80 Conference In Juarez

By Everett Hullum

LAREDO, Texas (BP) — Agustín Acosta, acting executive director of the National Baptist Convention of Mexico, urged Southern Baptists to join him in 1980 for the first International Conference on Evangelism and Missions.

The meeting would help celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Baptist Spanish Publishing House in El Paso and emphasize growing response of Mexican and U.S. Baptists to joint border ministries, from Texas to California, Acosta said during the 22nd annual Southern Baptist Home Mission Board Language Missions Conference.

Oscar Romo, director of language missions for the board, said Southern Baptists are committed to helping sponsor the conference, which Acosta offered to host in Juarez, Mexico. The

SBC Foreign Mission Board is also involved in the planning, a spokesman said.

Romo said the Home Mission Board, working with the state conventions of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California, also planned increased efforts along the border. Meetings to complete schedules will be held later in the spring.

Only Texas now has an organized and systematic program of border ministries on the U. S. side. Called the "Texas Baptist River Ministry," it is perhaps the largest missions effort ever attempted by a state convention.

Acosta indicated Mexican Baptists' willingness to host the International Conference on Evangelism and Missions was made possible by the Mexican government's new openness to evangelical groups.

He believes the 1980 census will re-

veal some five million evangelicals among the nation's 60 million people. Baptists — with more than 400 churches and 48,000 members — represent only a small fraction of that number.

The Mexican constitution prohibits public religious services conducted by non-Mexicans. But the Pope held two such events during his visit. Evangelical Christians, who had petitioned the government for years seeking similar opportunities, "now demanded this for themselves," Acosta said.

For the first time the privilege was officially granted by the government, Acosta said, making the international conference "a very historic opportunity." This is the first time such an event has been allowed in a public place.

Acosta is salaried by the Mexican churches, but works closely with representatives of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, who are involved in a "program leading toward greater independence and responsibility." As the mission moves toward nationalization of the work, the national convention functions "in a sort of cooperative agreement," Acosta said.

Clarke Family Volunteers For Oklahoma

The Norman Smith family has completed arrangements to serve for six weeks this summer as volunteers with the Home Mission Board in the Missions Service Corps.

Norman, his wife Carolyn, both Clarke students, and their three children: Michelle, Milissia, and Robert, left May 28 to work in the Osage Indian Center at Pawhuska, Oklahoma, under the supervision of Raymond Redcorn, home missionary.

The Smiths plan to serve with the Home Mission Board when they complete their schooling.

Personnel manager: "For this job we want a responsible man."

Applicant: "That's me. Wherever I've worked, if anything went wrong, they said I was responsible."

G. C. Sansing Retires From Pastorate

G. Carey Sansing has retired from the pastorate of Bethel Church, Columbus.

He has served churches in Mississippi for over 35 years, in Clay, Copiah, Lee, and Lowndes Counties.

Sansing has been pastor in Columbus for 25 years. He and his wife plan to live in Columbus. He will be available for supply work or interim pastorates.

Kurien Speaks At Society Hill

Ray Henry, pastor at Society Hill, states, "Not every speaker, regardless of the subject, is able to capture the attention of an audience at the outset and hold it spellbound until the conclusion. But that was not so in the case of P. N. Kurien, a native of India, who spoke at Society Hill Church May 14.

Kurien distributed literature about All India Prayer Fellowship. In one leaflet was this quotation: "India is a misty, mysterious land — an incredibly beautiful land — incredibly lost. Plagued by spiritual blindness her people hope in the satanic unknown which surrounds reincarnation, karma, the worship of ancestors, and devotion to animistic cults. Their Gods, they have discovered, have feet of clay and ears of stone. India daily convulses in the throes of sorrow, an unmerciful apathy deeper and darker than blindness since birth."

"India is an arena of human misery. Despair clings to the Indian soul like a kind of burning dross. Homeless families huddle close beneath the stars, spectres still as stone, waiting, hoping without hope for someone somewhere to remove the oppression and bring Light to the dilemma of life."

Therein lay the tone and content of Kurien's message as he appealed to the congregation and others to do something about India in the bold mission program, stating that \$11 per month for 12 months would support a native evangelist for nine months and that \$25 per month would sustain one of the evangelists for twelve months.

Claude Townsend of Florence, member of the All India Prayer Fellowship and a member of the 31-member Board of Directors in the United States, attended the service at Society Hill.

The All India Prayer Fellowship may be addressed at Q-3, Green Park Extension, New Delhi-16, India.

Devotional The Lord Is There

By Byron E. Mathis, Pastor
Calvary, Pascagoula
Ezekiel 48:35

We have heard individuals say, "I do not know what I would have done if you had not been there." If it means much for friends to be present, how much more does it mean to know "The Lord is there?"

I. In Trouble The Lord Is There
Trouble may be over family, friends, foes, finances, or the future, but knowing "The Lord is there" is enough.
Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Psalm 107:6 "They cried unto the Lord — and he delivered them out of their distresses."
John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me."

II. In Loneliness The Lord Is There
Hebrews 13:5 "Be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never, never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

Psalm 23:1 "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

You are not alone, for "The Lord is there."

III. In Bereavement The Lord Is There

Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that Love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

John 14:18 "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you."

Friends are wonderful but there is "a friend who sticketh closer than a brother."

Yes, the Lord is there and He is enough.

IV. In Sickness The Lord Is There

Matthew 4:23 "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people."

John 11:42 "Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes."

Remember "The great Physician now is near. The sympathizing Jesus"

V. In Temptation The Lord Is There

James 1:2 "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations"

James 1:14 "Every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed."

Hebrews 2:18 "He is able to succour them that are tempted."

I Corinthians 10:13 "God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

An awareness that "Jesus is there" will help you to triumph over temptations.

VI. When You've Sinned The Lord Is There

"Just when I need Him, Jesus is near." Jesus loves you, even when you have sinned.

I John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Psalm 51 is David's prayer after he had sinned. Read it and do likewise.

It is always too soon to give up so let God help you to make a new beginning today.

VII. In Death The Lord Is There

The Lord is there in salvation, surrender, service, prayer, praise, life, and death. Death, to a Christian, is an entrance into "God's better things." Think of heaven, home and "our friends over there."

"The Lord will go with me, with me, all the way."

Philippians 1:21 "To die is gain."

I Thessalonians 4:17-18 "Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore, comfort one another with these words."

A woman entered a hardware store and told the clerk she would like to see some wallpaper samples. After he had shown her a dozen or more patterns, she exclaimed: "Ah, now we're getting somewhere. That's the exact opposite of what I want!"

During the coffee break you can always pick out which one is the boss — he is the one watching the clock.



Bundles For Refugees

Southern Baptist missionary Eddie Neese distributes a bundle of clothes to a Vietnamese refugee family. The family has been approved for resettlement and is waiting departure in a Bangkok, Thailand, transit center. A packet on top of the bundle contains Christian literature, including a Gospel of Mark in Vietnamese. Neese, a William Carey College graduate, and his wife Judy package and distribute 30 to 50 bundles on an average day. Appointed as church planters to Indonesia, they are helping in Thailand while waiting for visas to Indonesia. (BP) photo by Maxine (Mrs. Robert R.) Stewart.

Uniform Lesson

Life-Giving Decisions

By Larry Kennedy
First, Laurel
1 Sam. 26:6-24

Legend tells of a Greek athlete who desperately wanted to win at the public games. Although he was extremely competitive, he lost in his attempt at fame and fortune. In honor of the winner, a statue was created and placed in the center of the local town. The athlete who had so desperately wanted to win was outraged by the honor. Every night, under the cover of darkness, he made his way to the statue and chiseled at its base. Finally, he accomplished his purpose and the statue fell. The only problem was that it fell on him, and he was killed instantly. Envy had accomplished its destructive work.

The legend reminds me of King Saul, who was afflicted with both envy and jealousy. Envy arises when someone has what he wants. Another person may possess power, personality, or prestige. The envious person desires those qualities, and he secretly hopes the envied person will be hurt or disgraced. A Christian psychologist has said, "Envy is like cancer which slowly and subtly takes over a person's thinking so that the envious man feels other's fortunes are his misfortunes; their profit, his loss; their blessings, his bane; their health, his illness; their promotion, his demotion; their success, his failure." The above definition certainly describes Saul's attitude toward David.

A jealous person is one who fears that his possessions or position will be taken by another. Saul feared that David would take his place as King. Driven by envy and jealousy, Saul pursued the young David into the hills, hoping to take his life. In the end, Saul's sinful passions were the poisons that corrupted his heart and destroyed his life.

I. Causes of Envy

What are the causes of envy? First, envy is usually an expression of inferiority. Persons who carry within their hearts deep feelings of inferiority can become very envious persons.

Second, envy is usually a characteristic of people who feel that they are failures. If a person sets a certain goal for himself but fails to attain that goal, he may become envious of another who was able to reach the goal. The

young girls who fail to make the "beauty list" can be very critical of those who did make it (so can their mothers). Of course what they are really saying is, "I wish I were in their place."

Third, envy is rooted in sin. Those who are far from God are good candidates for the envy sickness. Envy is a sin, and the devil uses it as a scheme to destroy people. This was certainly true in the life of Saul.

II. Consequences of Envy

Envy leads to corruption. Saul, Cain, and Joseph's brothers are Biblical examples of how envy corrupts. As one man has said, "Meanness, revenge, delinquency, and murder, have all been shown to stem from envy."

Envy leads to confusion. Saul should have been using his energy to run the government; however, envy caused him to roam the hills like a madman as he chased young David. The whole land was in a state of confusion because of Saul's envy.

Envy interrupts our fellowship with God. If another person possesses our thoughts because of envy, it is obvious that no room has been left for God. The Spirit of God is grieved, and his presence becomes nebulous. Saul had little time for God because he was too busy hating David.

III. Cure for Envy

David had many opportunities to eliminate King Saul; however, he left Saul in the hands of God. It appears that at this time David had a very close relationship with God, and those who are "walking with God" have little time for envy and jealousy.

Persons who have a positive self-esteem and self-worth are able to cope with envy. The man who sees himself from God's viewpoint — a person created in the image of God who is deeply loved by God — will possess a positive self-worth and will probably not spend a lot of time worrying about what other people have. David appeared to have had a healthy self-esteem.

Confession is a good cure for envy. If envy is in your heart, confess it to God and lay hold of his forgiveness. The Bible says, "If we confess . . . He is faithful and just to forgive . . . and cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

It is time to make a life-giving decision: forsake envy before it plays you for a fool.

Singing on earth is an accomplishment we can carry with us to heaven. — Maria L. Pizzoli



Mobile Chapel At Popp's Ferry

A mobile chapel belonging to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board has been delivered to the Popp's Ferry mission at Biloxi, a mission of the Gulf Coast Association, Sam Turner, director of missions. The chapel will be in use until a permanent building can be erected.

Life and Work Lesson

A Portrait Of God's Love

By Joe McKeever
First, Columbus
Hosea 1-3

It was a testimony many will never forget. In the little church, the lady stood to do as others were doing and tell about her relation to the Lord. "I have decided," she concluded, "to do anything the Lord wants me to do — just so long as it's honorable!"

That's a right funny story, until you come to the book of Hosea. Then it becomes very applicable. What do you do when God tells you to go marry a prostitute? Well, you make your own decision, but as for Hosea — he obeyed the Lord.

We will approach this Bible study with a series of questions. Who was Hosea? The last of God's prophets to the northern kingdom of Israel. He apparently preached right up to the fall of the country to Assyria in 722 B.C. Others preaching at the same time included Isaiah, Amos and Micah.

Why did God tell Hosea to marry an immoral woman?

To make a point. He and the nation Israel were just such a mis-match. A righteous husband and an immoral wife.

God says Israel was a "whore." That's an ugly word, but He meant it. Unfaithful to Jehovah God, the leaders and citizens of Israel went running after the puny gods of their neighbors and indulging in every sexual activity that accompanied such so-called worship.

Didn't marrying such a woman violate God's other teachings?

Some say "yes," and try to prove that this story did not truly happen, that it was an allegory to make a point.

Others say "no," that obedience to God's word is the highest law of all. I hold with this group. Still others try to make God fit their standards by saying she was not immoral at first, only after Hosea married her. I suggest we take God's Word at face value and relax.

What do you make of those strange names Hosea gave to his children?

Keep in mind that in the Hebrew culture, every person's name had real meaning. They had no Joe's and Larry's named for uncles or because the name went well with their last name. A name carried a message, an identity.

Actually, God chose the names for these children. The names represented His dealings with Israel. The first, Jezreel, reminds us of the

slaughter of King Ahab's sons in II Kings 10, by Jehu. God will now execute judgment on Israel for such a deed. The word "Jezreel" means "God will scatter." It is a name indicating judgment.

The other two names are simpler. Lo-ruhamah means "no pity or mercy." And Lo-ammi means "not my people." God points out that Israel is to be judged for her wickedness, that she will not receive mercy and is not to consider herself the people of God any longer.

Why does God speak so roughly about Gomer, Hosea's wife, in chapter 2?

Actually, he is speaking about Israel. His own bride. And yes, He does promise her a bad time of it.

In verse 3, she will be made as a wilderness — barren, unproductive, and friendless. In verse 6, her way will be blocked off with thorny hedges and walls — resulting in frustration, loneliness, and pain. And in verse 7, she will find no one who can satisfy her — her needs are far too deep and complex. So, then, she will get up and decide to come home.

The preacher said to one who was running from God, "I'm going to pray that you'll be miserable, that you won't get any sleep or enjoy your food, until you return to the Lord." That's precisely what God promises Israel. His purpose is not to hurt, but to bring them back.

The Lord sounds like an offended husband, doesn't he?

Exactly. Not the kind to get down his shotgun, but the kind who says, "I refuse to finance your escapades. No longer will I make excuses for you in the community. You are on your own."

In 2:8-9, God says, "I will take back my gifts." In verse 10, "I will let the world see her for what she is." In verses 11 and 12, "I will call in her credit cards and put a stop to her partying." And in verse 13, "I will show the indignation I feel!"

Yet, He turns right around and tries to woo her back. Isn't that amazing?

That's the word for it. We call it amazing grace. Our Lord puts up with a lot before He shuts the gate for the final time.

He wants her back. God loves His people. Wooing back the estranged and wicked Israel (Gomer), He offers hope for a new future (vs. 15), a close and loving relationship (vs. 16), a new

covenant (vs. 18), and a permanent betrothal (vs. 19-20). God will have compassion (ruhamah) and call them His people (ammi).

What's the point of Hosea's buying back his wife in chapter 3?

The price seems to be that of a slave, which was 30 shekels of silver. That says something about where she has been, and how God sees our separation from Him.

It took all Hosea had to raise that amount. So, using everything he had, he redeemed his loved one from bondage.

He loved his wife, that's the point. Pride says, "Don't take her back, don't forgive." But love answers, "Pay any price, but get her back. For her own sake."

This is love that gives and sacrifices, love that makes the hard decision, that survives hurts and offenses, love that remains when lesser attractions have played out. It was Hosea's for Gomer and God's for Israel.

Forgiveness is not cheap, is it?

Never. It costs the one who gives it. But in addition, Gomer had to decide if she wanted such forgiveness: The probationary period which she was put under (3:3) was not punishment so much as opportunity for her to decide what she wanted to do. Forgiveness is never imposed, but must be received voluntarily.

How was the prophecy of 3:4-5 fulfilled?

The long dry spell of verse 4 described the captivity of Assyria and later of Babylon. The return of the Israelites from Babylon in some ways met the condition of verse 5. But the best fulfillment was in the coming of Jesus Christ.

Notice this would be "in the last days." This usually refers to the time of Christ. There would come a new day for Israel in which she would come to know the person of Jesus Christ as the Lord of Heaven and the Son of David. And the marriage of the Lord and His bride would become an eternal thing.

Washington (BP) — A Congressional investigative report on the murder of U. S. Rep. Leo J. Ryan has recommended stepped-up research on cults, review of International Revenue Service rules on the tax-exempt status of churches and the inclusion of the subject of cults on the agenda of a White Conference on the Family.